THE INDEPENDENT

Tories join battle in a fight for the party's soul

Leading Tories who yesterday signed the letter to The Independent supporting Tony Blair on Europe are to have a showdown with William Hague. Colin Brown, Chief Political Correspondent, says it will test the Tories' central faith.

There is a feeling of frustration, rather than anger," said one ex-minister. "We have been silent too long." The feud in the Tory party over a European single currency is heading for a climax. Kenneth Clarke, a former chancellor, and key officers of the Tory Positive European Group have asked for a meeting with the Conservative Partyleader in a desperate attempt to get him to drop his policy of ruling out the single nurency for 10 years.

... The decision by Chris Patten, a former party chairman, to sign yesterday's letter to The Independent has raised the stakes, and prevented Mr Hague or his allies from dismissing the pro-European group, which includes Michael Heseltine, Lord Howe, and another former party chairman, John Gummer, as a hunch of has-beens.

The letter, signed by a former prime minister, two former deputy prime ministers and six ex-ministers, criticised Mr That is pledged support for the Prime Minister's Euro-enthusiasm: "We believe it important that EMU should succeed and for Britain to prepare now to join a successful single currency."

It has also raised the spectre of a leadership challenge to Mr Hague. Although friends of Mr Patten denied that was his intention, it is seen as a marker.

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EVEN

Mr Patten, the last governor of Hong Kong, who was made a Companion of Honour by Mr Blair in the New Year's Honours List, has told allies he thinks it is "not tenable" for the Tories to go into the next election refusing to take a view about a decision which is the most important facing

Britain and Europe since Bretton Woods.

However, the Euro-sceptics surrounding Mr Hague, including some of his most senior Cabinet colleagues, said last night that Mr Hague would not change guinse now, and they expect the Tories to at the next etection on a pledge to save pound. "Patten's decision to sign the ter was extraordinary. Anyone who thes to be the next Tory leader, or May-

or of London and supports the Labour Cabinet's line on the Euro would be wise to remember that view is not shared by the majority in the Tory party," said a shadow cahinet source. Another leading Euro-sceptic, Norman Lamont, a former chancellor, told The Independent he did not believe Mr Hague would weaken and the vast majority of the party supported the Tory leadership line, "Until today's letter, the 25th anniversary of Britain's going into the EEC. has been greeted with an appropriate deafening silence. Perhaps a more suitable way of commemorating it would be to spell out how the British people were misled about the nature and direction of the EU. They will not be easily misled again about the single currency.

The underlying threat in the letter is that it could lead to a final split in the Tory party. Some Tory MPs have told The Independent they are not ruling out leaving the party under Mr Hague. The Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown, has told friends that some Tories have put feelers out to his party. The decisive split would almost certainly take place if Mr Blair proposed voting by proportional representation, after a referendum, for Westminster polls. For the time being, the Euro-enthusiasts are determined to stand their ground and fight, but are oot hopeful.

The showdown with Mr Hague, which is expected to take place soon after the Commons returns from the New Year recess cext week, follows a meeting before Christmas between a delegation of Positive European Tories, also led by Mr Clarke, to the party chairman, Lord Pa son. Some who atteoded the meeting pointed out that the Tories threatened to go into the next election opposed by the CBI, and they were appalled when Lord Parkinsoo reportedly said that big business was on the wrong side before the Second World War. The former prime minister Sir Edward Heath, another of the signatories. has told friends he has no intention of leaving the party, but privately believes that Mr Hague has gathered around himself too many Euro-sceptics. Welcoming the support of leading Tories, the Prime Minister's spokesman said the Government's own position on signing up to the euro was coherent and commanded widespread support. "When you have figures of that weight stating what they are supporting, it will aid the debate."

Channel of division, page 8 Letters, page 16 Leading article, page 16



prepares for the return tomorrow of Cirque du Soleil to the Royal Albert Hall in London. He is just one of the acrobats, trapeze artists, fire-eaters and clowns, backed by jazz and cabaret musicians, in the troupe started by two Canadian street performers a decade ago. It now employs a cast of

compellingly sensuous and lyrical acts means the company is set to play 32 shows over the next month at the 5,000-seat hall. Cirque's latest multimillion pound show is called Alegria, a Spanish word expressing elation, and tells the tale of an enchanted journey Photograph: Peter Macdiarmid

INSIDE TODAY

Mobile phone habit costs the British dear NEWS/3

Lunch with Conran

for £10 TOKEN PAGE 20

Take control of your own life: How a stress guru copes in a crisis

FEATURES/15

Photo 98: The century in pictures

The Eye. Sec. 35. The Eye The Eye, page 10

Web address: http://www. independent.co.uk



eils and sails: Navy sets out to recruit Muslim women

Royal Navy is to ch a recruitment e to bring the first im women into the Pice. lan Burrell reports how naval procedures being changed to commodate their gious needs.

yashmaks are the outanding problem. Naval chiefs are currently in talks with their counterparts in Pakistan and Turkey to see if the traditional Muslim veil could be incorporated into a naval uniform.

place to pipe aboard the first female Muslim recruits into the Royal Navy next September. Potential Muslim Wrens are

week programme on naval life. in Glasgow next month. Commander Keith Manchanda, who is supervising the an influx, he said.

expected to undergo a two-

cessions for minority religions and was discriminatory. He said that during the past Otherwise, everything is in six months a succession of changes had been introduced to

make the Navy an attractive career option for Muslim women. "Once we get one or two coming through the system we can use them as role models and once we have that we will get

was trying to overcome the be-

liefs that the Navy made no con-

The Navy is concerned that warmer conditions it is being ignored by Asian women, whose academic achievements have been high-

lighted in successive studies. Muslim women would be allowed to take their swimming test without men present, he said. The Wren's winter "rig" of long-sleeved shirt and trausers could be worn all year round by Muslim ratings who are required to keep their arms and legs covered and would eschew the skirts and short

sleeves worn by Wrens in

Whether yashmaks are incorporated into the uniform depends largely on the advice from other Muslim countries. In the Turkish navy, female ratings do not wear a veil. Their uniforms are similar to those of Western servicewomen.

Commander Manchanda said that he had been able to reassure a Manchester-based engineering graduate of Banghideshi parentage that she

would be welcome. "I am hoping she will be among our September intake," he said.

Part of the Navy's difficulty will be overcoming family opposition. Fiaz Khan, of the Ethnic Minority Enterprise Centre in Glasgow, which will host the first induction course next month, said: "We will be equally targeting women as well as men. The problem is that Muslim females are not encouraged to seek careers in the job market in general."

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TODAY'S NEWS

Boys lured into learning by non-fiction

Soys should be given more fact-based material - and fewer story books - if they are to catch up with girls at reading, the body which advises ministers on school turriculums said yesterday. The move came as the Government announced a range of measures to redress the balance between girls and boys.

Figures in guidance being sent to all schools show that the gender gap appears early. At seven, 21 per cent of girls reach national curriculum level three in English, compared with just 14 per cent of boys. Page 5

Public soft on criminals

The latest British Crime Survey shows that although a majority of the public think sentences are too lenient, when asked about specific crimes, many people would impose less serious penaloes that the courts. And they are very confused about the real levels of violence in society. Page 4

Perfect chips

Fast food chain Burger King has introduced to its US customers what it claims is a tastier "deep-fried potato stick" as part of an offensive against McDonald's. Burger wars are set to hit Britain. Page 3.

'Independent' crystal ball

Helmut Kohl will be re-elected this year, Boris Yeltsin's health will finally collapse and Communist North Korea will explode. Or will it? The Independent judiciously predicts some of the surprises that may be in store for the world in 1998. Or not Page II

Rugby closed shop

The investors behind England's leading professional rugby union duhs are considering a plan to create a closed shop by blocking Premiership promotion and relegation for the next five

for

ha

es.

COLUMN ONE

Drunk driver sentenced to a change of address

Santa has gone home and the champagne corks popped on New Year's Eve have been swept away. Now is the season for drunken drivers caught tipsy at the wheel to face the music. But no one is likely to be contemplating a punishment as novel - or convenient - as the one handed down

Mr Cayse, 50, a self-professed alcoholic from Cincinnati, Ohio, has been charged 24 times under the state'a drunken-driving laws since 1971. He has been to prison twice and his driving licence was permanently revoked years ago. Three weeks ago, however, he was hauled over once again, happily driving his wife through the countryside. And he was way over the le-

In delivering a sentence that has enraged anti-drunken driving groups around the country, Judge James Hapner, who has dealt with Mr Cayse on several occasions, offered this solution. Mr Cayse must move to within "easy walking dis-



One for the road: Or one for the pavement in Cayse's case

to comply within 30 days, then be will be sent to jail for one-and-a-half "He doesn't deny he's an alco-

tance" of a liquor store. If he fails

holic, he just doesn't see that as a problem," the judge said, after is-auing his ruling. "It's my hope that he'll walk to get his beer and wine. Whether it will work or not, I don't know.

It was partly the track record of Mr Cayse that prompted the state of Ohio two years ago to pass a new law, making Driving Under the Influence (DUI) a felony punishahle with prison. Until then, judges were unable to incarcerate repeat offenders.

Local police apparently agree that the judge was at the end of the road in finding new ways to handle Mr Cayse. Saying he had no problem with the sentence, Sheriff's Lieutenant Ronald Ward said: "I have known Dennis for a long time, and I've never seen him sober, except when he was in

There are other provisions in the sentence. In addition to having to move house. Mr Cayse was ordered to spend the first week of every year in prison for the next five years. He was due to hegin the first of those seven-day sentences yesterday.

Moreover, Judge Hapner ruled that Mr Cayse must be handcuffed to the passenger-side door whenever he rides in a car. Failing that, there must he a passenger sitting between him and the driver. How these arrangements will be policed was not made clear.

Celeste Teresh, the state president of Ohio's chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (Madd), was less than impressed. "Mr Cayse is a multiple offender and telling to move next to a liquor store is not going to solve the problem," she said yesterday. "It is time to rethink the judicial system

"Easy walking distance", by the way, was carefully defined by Judge Hapner. In a country area it must be three-eighths of a mile or less, while in an urban area half a mile or less would satisfy him. Mr Cayse has made

- David Usborne, New York

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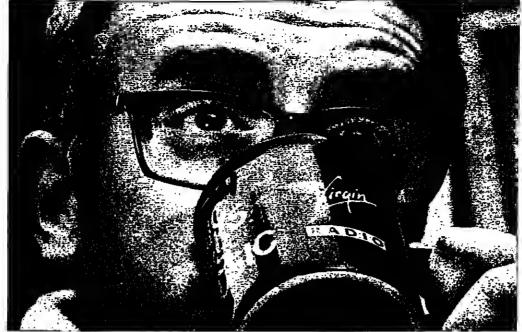
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WEST END

West End

L. MERIDIEN

PEOPLE



Chris Evans: Disappointment over Noel's House Party bid was compensated by BSkyB deal

day Los Angeles but carries with

it a strong whiff of the Seventies,

in particular the music, attitude

and in Pam Grier, a star of the Sev-

serene portrayal of the title role.

Jackie Brown is a fading stew-

Grier, 48, who had been

enties Blaxploitation genre.

Evans stymied in bid for Crinkley Bottom

Chris Evans demonstrated the size of his amhitions yesterday when he made an offer to produce the BBC's flagship entertainment show and then announced a 13m sponsorship and programme development deal with satellite channel BSkyB.

Evans used his Virgin Radio breakfast show to make a pitch to Noel Edmonds to be allowed to produce the bearded entertainer's Saturday evening television show Noel's House Party, which is set in the fictional Crinkley Bottom.

Evans' offer came in the middle of frantic negotiations between the BBC and Edmonds, who owns the rights to the show, about the programme's future. Noel's House Party, which is a central plank of the

BBC's mass entertainment offering, was pulled at the last moment last week after a dispute between the BBC and Edmonds about the quality of the show. That looked to be resolved - and Evans' grow-

ing media empire stymied - when the BBC last night announced that the seven-year-old show will be hack

Faithful gather

for Tarantino's

The American director Quentin

Tarantino was in London last

night for a lecture and preview

creening of his new movie, Jackie

Brown, at the National Film

ica on Christmas Day it has been

The film, which is based on the

plays fewer games with time and falls in love with ber.

Drugs tsar

in earnest

begins work

Britain's new "drugs tsar" for-

mally took up his post yesterday. Keith Hellawell (pictured) has been working two days a week since October at his new role of UK Anti-drugs Co-ordinator while continuing as Chief Con-

stable of West Yorkshire. He is due to report his recommendations for action to the drugs minister George

committee in April.

Howarth and to the Cahinet

£102,000-a-year post hy a deputy, Michael Trace, 36, cur-

rently director of the Rehabil-

itation for Addicted Prisoners' Trust, and a staff of six. Mr Hellawell arrived at his new Whitehall offices over-

looking St James's Park for his

first day in the post yesterday

morning making no comments on the task ahead of him as he posed for photographs.

Mr Hellawell has warned

Paul Cavadino, principal officer of the National Association

against seeking "simplistic" an-

swers to the problem of drugs.

his role to shift resources away

from law enforcement and to-

He said: "Of the resources

wards treatment of addicts.

Lahour MP Paul Flynn, chairman of the Commons drug misuse group, said that Mr Hellawell's joh came with a "derisory hudget and his task is to repackage failed policies". He will be belped in his

garnering rave reviews.

shifts of perspective.

latest opus

BBC, said last night: "It was important for us all at this moment to step hack and look at our plans for the remaining shows to ensure that we can offer viewers programmes that will surprise and entertain them in the future." Mr Jackson is believed to have taken the decision last week to pull the show.

Despite this setback Chris Evans then bounced back with the announcement that Rupert Murdoch's BSkyB is to sponsor his morning hreakfast show for 13m. In return Evans will plug the satellite channel's shows, such as Friends, ER and The Simpsons, and his Ginger Media Group will develop programme ideas for BSkyB.

Elisabeth Murdoch, daughter of Rupert and BSkyB's director of programming, has been wooing Evans as part of her strategy to start creating original programmes for BSkvB.

BSkyB has deep pockets and television industry experts believe Ms Murdoch may be preparing the same kind of massive outlay on programme talent that the channel has already spent on sports rights. - Paul McCann, Media Correspondent

Paul Jackson, head of entertainment at the

But it retains his trademark dialogue, both arcane and wildly profane, despite containing much less violence. The film is set in present-

won a retrial when the Court of Appeal quashed his conviction for terrorising a 21-year-old dental nurse, pleaded guilty yesterday.

reduced to television roles before Clarence Morris's unexpected being rescued - like John Travolta decision to admit causing Perry - by Tarantino, blows co-stars like Southall psychologically based ac-Robert De Niro, Samuel L Jacktual bodily harm, came as the The film opens in the UK on son, Bridget Fonda and Michael young blonde woman steeled her-20 March. Since opening in Amer- Keaton off the screen with her self for another witness box ordeal before her termenter.

ardess in her forties who refuses Poplar, east London, followed his Elmore Leonard caper novel Rum to be beaten by a plot that contains victim almost everywhere she Punch, is less highly stylised than bank robbers, arms dealers, fedwent. Nearly every day he stood Tarantino's previous films, Reser- eral agents, stoned surfer chicks outside the surgery where she worked banging on the windows and bellowing "I love you Perry. I voir Dogs and Pulp Fiction, and and a cynical bail bondsman who love you."

Stalker admits mental assault

A "highly dangerous" stalker, who

For eight months Morris, 38, of

UPDATE

TOURISM

Caledonian worst for airline delays

Caledonian Airways, which experienced major aircraft maintenance problems in 1997, was the worst airline for delays last summer, the Consumers' Association said yesterday. Caledonian had average delays of more than an hour and a half on flights to Athens, Rhodes, Majorca and Dalaman in Turkey, according to the CA's Holiday Which? magazine.

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Other poor performers last summer were Airworld Aviation, Sabre Airways and Leisure International, while the airlines with the least delays were Flying Colours, British Airways and Monarch Airlines.

From figures compiled by the Civil Aviation Authority, Holiday Which? published a list of average delays of flights to top holiday destinations from

10 UK airports from May-August 1997. The longest average delay was one of 3hrs 30mins by Gatwick-based Sabre Airways to Dalaman. In contrast, Flying Colours - the carrier for Sunset Holidays and Club 18-30 - had average delays of just one minute to Corfu, five minutes to Rhodes and to Orlando, and just 10 minutes to Malta. ● The magazine also claimed that tourists travelling on their own are being unfairly singled out by holiday companies, with solo travellers facing supplements of up to £17 a night. Some companies even put single supplements on fly-drive holidays where no accommodation was offered.

The higgest complaint from singles was that they paid more and got less - and then ended up in the worst room, the magazine said.

CONSUMERISM

Male crèches for bored shoppers

MALE CRÈCHE

OFF_

As the January sales scrum kicks off, research warns that one in two British couples who

shop together end up arguing. The study for Bluewater a massive retail complex due to open in Kent in next year - suggests male crèches as the solu-

tion to stop couples hickering.

The creches would provide "time out" opportunities (male-focused entertainment such as hars) and "escape lanes" such as computer shops.

"We discovered that most couples find it difficult to synchronise their different shop-

LADIESWEAR

DNE ON ...

TRY THIS

ping patterns," said Jeff Klein, Bluewater's marketing director. Men preferred short bursts of shopping compared to women's preference for longer stints. With their partner's "shopping clock" running at a different speed, there was a danger that women will find their bored partner has wandered away just when they most want feedback.

ECONOMY

End to the north-south divide

Entrepreneurs in both the North and South of England are confident their fortunes will improve dramatically in 1998, a report claimed yesterday.

It said the findings laid to rest the theory of the "north-south divide". The survey by Grant Thornton International and Business Strategies, the economic consultancy, reveals similarly large numbers of owner-managers of small-to-medium sized enterprises in the North, Greater London and the South-west expected turnover to increase sharply this year.

Business people in the North were most optimistic about the coming 12 months. Welsh businessmen were most pessimistic. They expected the lowest level of employment, investment and advertising of any region.

Correction

TOURIST RATES

The correct number for the Royal Albert Hall booking office is 0171 589 8212. We gave the incorrect number yesterday in our preview of the Cirque du Soleil. Apologies to all.



Australia (dollars) 2.44 haly (lira) Austria (schillings) 20.15 Japan (yen) Belgium (francs) Malta (lira) Canada (\$) 2.27 Netherlands (guilders) Cyprus (pounds) 0.83 Norway (kroner) Portugal (escudos) Denmark (kroner) France (francs) 9.59 Spain (pesetas) Germany (marks) 2.87 Sweden (kroner) Greece (drachmei) Switzerland (francs) Hong Kong (\$) 12.33 Turkey (lira) ireland (punts) 1.11 USA (\$)

ZITS

by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

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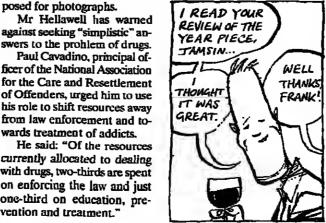


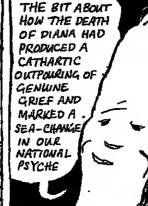






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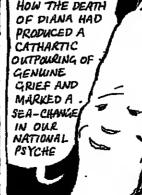
















by Chris Priestley

currently allocated to dealing with drugs, two-thirds are spent on enforcing the law and just Posthouse SIGNATURE one-third on education, prevention and treatment."

3/LEADING STORIES

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by Gatwick-hased Sale - the certier for Sum ist 10 minutes to Male ies even put single sup odation was offered



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icott & jim Bergmar



thought, ine delays raft maintenance pm or just a chip off

Food for

the old

Burger King, upstart

rival to McDonald's, is

offensive in the battle

stomachs. Among its

secret weapons is a new

and tastier potato chip.

whether the company

can halt the relentless

march of the Big Mac.

In the cut-throat world of

burgers, fries and shakes.

Burger King is a mere min-now. As McDonald's steadi-

ly colonises the globe with

Happy Meals, its British-

owned competitor trails be-

hind, fuming, in second place.

thing to play for particularly

in countries like Britain,

where the fast food industry

offers vast potential for ex-

pansion. Burger King, fed up with McDonald's smug dom-

inance of the market, is plan-

ning to challenge its giant

rival with a mixture of bribery.

A vision of what lies ahead

for British consumers can be glimpsed in the United States,

where Burger King has already unveiled an aggressive

It has launched the Big

King, a shameless imitation of McDonald's best-selling sand-

wich, but containing 75 per

much fanfare, came the

launch of the product that

Burger King believes could topple McDonald's from its

pedestal: new, different

French fries, What makes

these chips irresistible, ac-

special coating that makes

them tastier and crispier, as well as sealing in the heat for

longer. It gave away a free bag

of them to all its American

customers on the first day -

about when it plans to intro-

duce its British fans to these culinary delights, but it is un-

derstood that their arrival

here will be accompanied by

McDonald's, meanwhile, is

a big advertising campaign.

affecting lofty disinterest. It

points out that, with 22,000

outlets worldwide, compared

Anton Edelman, head chef at the Savoy.

uses only floury potato varieties such as

cuts them into chunky pieces, in the

the French Mona Lisa or Dutch Bijnge. He

old-fashioned manner, and cooks them in

perature, about 110-120 degrees, which

them to hot oil, about 170 degrees, to

softens them up," he says. "Then I return

crisp them up. The perfect chip should be

crispy on the outside, soft, fluffy and light

inside." The worst sin committed by most

chip cookers is to re-use the oil, according

Antonio Carluccio, owner of the Neal

to Mr Edelman. "The oil must always be

Street restaurant in London, always uses

waxy potatoes, which he says make for

"I first blanch them at a very low tem-

The company is being coy

70 million in all.

Then, last Friday, amid

new strategy.

cent more beef.

chutzpah and plagiarism.

But there is still every-

for the nation's

Kathy Marks asks

poised to launch a fresh

block?

rld Aviation, Sabre Air ith the least delays we thority. Holiday Whie a

just one minute to Co ing on their wan arche th solo travellers lange y paid more and golk

hoppers



cured to will manisprapring clock "tensing:

divide

aglancio, conidentale

booking office is

12.70



Still the greatest story ever told

afford not to be rattled."We

are the market leaders," said

spokeswoman Eddie Ben-

silum. "In taste testings, our

French fries always come out

on top. We think that they're

darm good fries, and so do our

surprising for a number two to

do a "me too" type of thing.

"As for the Big King, it's not

customers.

THE ART OF THE PERFECT CHIP

An edectic shortlist in the Whitbread Book is the first author in the history of the by Chris Priests. Awards includes poet laureate Ted Hughes's retelling of a 2,000-year-old story and atheist novelist Jim Crace's challenge to an-

other 2,000-year-old story. Crace's fictional account of Jesus's 40 days in the desert won the Whitbread Novel Award. Quarantinewas previously shortlisted for the Booker Prize and will compete with three other works for the main £23,000 Whitbread Book Of The Year award to be announced later this

month. Yesterday the judges decided on the best povel, best first novel, biography and postry collection, effectively making a shortlist of four works, each receiving £2,000.

The win by Crace is notable as he preyously won the Whitbread First Novel loward in 1986 for Continent and, indeed,

awards to win both the best novel and best

Superfry: Burger King has high hopes for its new product Photograph: Andrew Buurman

to its competitor's 9,000, it can Imitation is the sincerest form to appeal to a more adult

of flattery. We simply don't re-

been more right for a con-

certed effort to wipe the smile

off the face of Ronald Mc-

Donald, McDonald's had a

disastrous 1997. Its profits fell

across the Atlantic, where a

new sandwich, the Arch

Deluxe, which was supposed

deliciously crispy chips while absorbing

second-pressing olive oil, or even pork

should be cooked quite slowly, he says.

while the dilinier type regults a speedie."

using the wrong potatoes and the wrong

item, you need high-quality ingredients for

market fries purveyed by fast food chains.

They are like computer-generated little

potato, but the flavour is not really of the

- Kathy Marks

batons of something which looks like

Mr Carluccio is dismissive of the mass-

fax," he says. "As with any other culinary

"The mistake that many people make is

lard, for added flavour. Chunky chips

sizzle, to prevent them burning.

a high-quality product."

less fat. He recommends cooking them in

But the time has never

gard Burger King as a threat."

palate, bombed.

Also in the US, a 55-cent

burger promotion introduced

to mark Roy Croc's creation of

the company in 1955 was

shunned by customers, who

had to buy fries and a drink at

the regular price in order to

qualify. Closer to home, its cor-

porate image was battered by

its libel action against two en-

vironmental activists, which

led to damaging allegations be-

In Britain, McDonald's has 830 outlets, or "restaurants". as the company insists on call-

ing them, compared with

Burger King's 455. Both recently announced a big ex-

pansion programme: McDonald's plans to open

another 100 outlets this year

and Burger King another 60.

come an important arena in

the duel of the flaccid patties

and, as far as Burger King is

concerned, the gloves are off.

"They're bigger than us, but

we're a very healthy second."

says spokesperson Emnia

Stuart. -We think we serve

much bener burgers, and a lor

of customers agree with us."

Britain looks set to be-

ing aired in court.

first novel prizes. The other category winners are: The Ventriloquist's Tale by Pauline Melville, a first novel set in the savannahs of south America, where a brother and sister embark on an incestuous relationship; a life of the French writer and politician Victor Hugo by Graham Robb in the biography section; and Tales From Ovid by Ted Hughes - the poet laureate's retelling of the Metamorphoses myths first set down 2,000

years ago in Augustan Rome. Jim Crace's reworking of the Lenten Gospel story has been described as a compelling account of the physical challenge of the desert and the limits of human endurance, as well as an interpretation of Jesus Christ's life.

Crace said last night: "I'm a pretty dyedin-the-wool, uncompromising atheist. It was the reason I wrote this book I wanted to confront the story of Jesus's 40 days fasting in the desert with one scientific fact: you would die in the Judaean desert with

"In the book Jesus dies after 3tl days. But many Christian critics have enjoyed the

"And of course you could explain it by saying that Jesus died and was resurrected. So you can approach it from an aetheistic or religious point of view."

A separate £10,000 award for the Whitbread Children's Book Of The Year will be made at the awards dinner on 27 Jan-

— David Lister, Arts News Editor Cover story, The Eye

Mobile-phone habit costs the British dear

Mobile-phone companies saw a record number of connections before Christmas - 750,000 new customers in three months. But, says Glenda Cooper, Consumer Affairs Correspondent, a survey claims Britons are still paying highly to get connected.

Mohile-phone companies saw the number of connections rise dramatically in the last quarter of 1997 as people, tempted by better coverage and more flexible tariffs, bought phones as Christmas presents.

At the same time, however, a survey from the independent telecoms monitoring company Phillips Tarifica showed British mobile-phone users pay higher hills than in most countries. The hig four networks - Vodafone, Cellnet, One2One and Orange - showed spectacular growth in the last quarter. Orange said its sub-scriber base grew by 50 per cent over 1997 and added 130,000 new customers in the last three months of the year - the highest quarterly connections yet. Vodafone Group signed up 459,000 new customers, with December 1997 the best individual month's performance since it was set up in 1985. Cellnet saw a 118-per-cent increase on the previous quarter, while One2One saw a 142-per-cent increase.

Phillips Tarifica compared monthly rental in five countries and found that in Britain it was on average three times more expensive than in Italy. All four networks were also more expensive than

minute calls, peak and off-peak, the difference was less pronounced, with Vodafone having the cheapest peak calls, and Telecom Italia the cheapest off-peak. In an earlier survey Phillips Tarifica compared the cost of using a mobile phone in nine countries.British users who make one hour of national calls each faced an average monthly hill of £25 - on average 20 per cent more expensive than France and Germany and almost twice as expensive as Italy.

Margrit Sessions, managing director of Phillips Tarifica, said: "No one should be paying much more for a mobile than a fixed line. I think mobile phones are far too expensive. And calling overseas is extremely expensive. The cheapest way to call America costs me 8p a minute - from a mo-

hile it can cost ten times as much," James Tanner, of Tancroft Communications, which supplies hardware for the major networks, said: "You've got two or three different networks per country and the call charges vary. It's nothing to do with the home operator - Vodafone or Cellnet have to charge what the operator charges them." Mike Caldwell, manager of corporate communications for Vodafone. said Britain had one of the most competitive mobile-phone markets. "There are a number of balances. In the UK the majority of handsets are virtually free, whereas in Europe you would be paying the full price. And if we did halve our prices and attracted 20 million new users overnight the

network wouldn't be able to cope."

A spokesman for Cellnet said: "We offer value for money and charge a fair price. It is not a like-for-like comparison. We would want to look at other elements, such France, Germany and Australia. For one- as the ability to make and receive calls."

IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT



THEEYE The musical makes a comeback

Tchaikovsky: all you need to know (and a lotyou don't)



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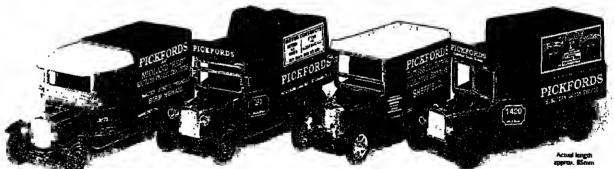
confidence

Charges for residential mobile phone users:

		Monthly Rental	One minute peak call	One minute off-peak call
UK:	Orange One2One Cellnet Vodafone	\$24.61 \$24.43 \$24.43 \$28.71	\$0,41 \$0.43 \$0.56 \$0.16	\$0.21 \$0.15 \$0.16 \$0.16
France:	France Telecom	\$13.60	\$0.66	\$0.17 S
Germany:	DeTeMobil	\$13.98	\$0.91	\$0.19 g
Italy:	Telecom Italia	\$ 8.46	\$0.85	\$0:10 - E
Spain:	Telstra	\$22.88	\$0.27	\$0.14

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Public goes soft on criminals and hard on judges

The public would be more lenient on criminals than the courts if they were in charge of sentencing, a Home Office study has found. The report's findings, says Joson Bennetto, Crime Correspondent, calls into question government crime policy for the past

Most people are grossly igno- for locking up offenders and be- people would prefer to use more system and gives a highly unrant about levels of crime and punishment in Britain and hold widespread disregard for judges and magistrates, a new survey has discovered.

rent government and its Tory predecessors are "playing to the gallery" by following the public's apparent desire for tougher sentences.

But detailed analysis reveals that most of the supposed thirst

lief that our courts are full of soft-hearted judges is wrong. Sensationalist tabloid newspapers and unbalanced reporting is partly blamed for the mis-The report suggests the cur- conceptions, although the ju- and increasing family discipline diciary are criticised for are far better ways of tackling al", rather than explanation, to

sustain respect. Results from 8,500 adults questioned in the British Crime Survey in 1996 show that most

alternatives to prisons, such as community settlenees, and do not support the current policy of building more jails. Most also believe reducing unemployment

depending on "pomp and ritu- crime than tougher sentences. The findings, by the Home Office's Research and Statistics Directorate, undermined many widely-held perceptions about

flattering picture of the judiciary as outdated and aloof.

The report concludes: "The [survey] suggests that there is a crisis of confidence in sentencers which needs tackling with some urgency ... the findings suggest that a criminal policy of 'playing to the gallery' and extending the use of imprison-

ment further is not appropriate. "Firstly, there was little pubthe public's view of the justice lic support for building more

crowding. More importantly, the belief that sentences are 100 lenient is mainly a reflection of misperceptions about current

While four out of five people questioned thought that judiciawas too lenient, when given a specific case they gave lesser sentences. Asked what punishment they would give to a 23-year-old man who burgled an elderly man, just under half wanted a non-cuswhich was a real case, was actu-

Examples of the public's "widespread ignorance" included 96 per cent of people thought reported crime had either risen or stayed the same between 1993 and 1995, whereas it fell by eight per cent. A small minority of crimes - from six to 20 per cent - are violent, but four out of five people substantially overestimated this proportion.

Eighty-two per cent of the sample thought that judges were out of touch with the public, while the figure for

magistrates was 63 per cent. The report comments: "The court system may not be entirely unique in continuing with eighteenth century strategies of pomp and ritual to sustain its authority."

• For a copy of Attitudes to Punishment, telephone 0171 273

Householders to foot bill for worst storms in a decade

Parts of Britain began sweeping up yesterday after some of the worst storms since the great hurricane of 1987. As the death toll rose to two, and flooding followed gales in many parts of the country, Steve Boggon found out that higher insurance premiums would provide another icy blast.

than £500m in claims yesterday as the severe weather took its second victim.

As winds gusting up to 115mph began blowing themselves out, only to he replaced by rain and floods, the Association of British Insurers (ABI) said householders would he asked to foot the hill through increased premiums. The storms' second victim

was named yesterday as 83-yearold Selina Andrews, of Cardiff, who lost a two-day fight for life. She had been in a critical con-were on red alert as waves of up dition since Saturday when she was struck by a large parasol swept up in the high winds in Cardiff city centre.

lands. He died on Sunday night when a tree was blown on to his bourne. Staffordshire.

Among those injured yesterday was an unnamed woman who was described as "critical" after being struck by a falling lamp-post in Cavendish Square, central London. She was taken by air amhulance to the Royal London Hospital yesterday with severe head injuries.

Up and down the country, gales were replaced by flooding, rain and thunder as tens of thousands of homes remained with-Insurance companies were out power. In the West Country, bracing themselves for more 40,000 properties were without electricity. The South Western Electricity Board said as many as 1,000 workmen were working on the faults,

South Wales was particularly hard-hit, In Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, work began restoring power to 50,000 homes while, in lvybridge, Devon, lightning cut off a further 6,500 customers. Hundreds of homes on the south coast were the south coast and the south- directly on 01454 209500. west, where seaside resorts to 40ft crashed through hastily prepared defences.

At Selsey, west Sussex, workmen dumped tons of shingle

Kingswinford in the West Mid- against waves which were last night threatening several homes and up to 1,500 caravans. Red car at Gospel End. Wom- coastal flood warnings remained in place in Sussex, while hundreds of rivers and streams in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Dorset and south Wales were on the brink of bursting their banks.

The ABI said companies were already receiving thousands of calls for help, although it described the situation as "severe but not catastrophic".

This is going to add pressure for premiums to go up during the course of this year." said ABI spokeswoman Suzanne Moore.

Thousands of motorists were left stranded yesterday as emergency breakdown telephone lines were jammed with callers. The AA and the RAC said hundreds of their extra patrol vehicles, standing by for traditional New Year car trouble, were left unused when their phone lines were inundated. BT blamed had weather coming on the first day after the Christmas hreak for the "unprecedented" number of calls. The RAC advised members flooded. Worst hit areas were to contact its command centre

Forecasters reported that the worst of the wind was over, hut rain, sleety showers and thunder storms would spread across much of southern Britain, while snow and frost The weather's first victim and sandbags on top of wrecked would hit the Midlands, Penwas Archibald Howells, 67, of sea defences in a losing battle nines and North Wales.



Fresh air: Two riders brave the first snow near Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, as stormy weather maintains its grip elsewhere

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Hosepipe bans stay despite deluge

hlasted Britain, but some water and sceptical yesterday. Three than 50mm has fallen in the first bans covering more than 2.5 million people, although few of entire month. these will be anxious to water their gardens in the next few

So far this year, England and Wales have had more than

This one may turn out to be companies were still cautious rather wet. On average, more still have hosepipe or sprinkler five days. That is more than half the long-term average for the

The New Year's torrential opening follows above average rainfall for the November and December which closed 1997. Most reservoirs are full and wa-120,000. The two say months of three times as much rain as the ter tables in the underground

vears of on-off drought.

But in some areas, mostly in the south east, ground water levels arc still at or close to record hosepipe and sprinkler han, which owers 1.7 million people. kler han in Sutton, covering

The drought may appear to be whole of last January, which was aquifers are rising towards their average or above average rainnormal level after two and a half fall are needed to bring things

> But the much larger Southern Water Company is likely to .. lift its hosepipe and sprinkler. low levels. Essex and Suffolk ban covering some 800,000 peo-Water has no plans to lift its plc in Sussex soon. "Groundwater levels are at average for the time of year and as far as, And Sutton and East Surrey we're concerned the drought is_ Water is maintaining its sprin- over," said spokesman Geoff.

- Nicholas Schoon

Mowlam moves to calm loyalists

tinued from the loyalist underworld yesterday as Mo Mowlam, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, met a series of parties in an attempt to

calm tensions. The Government's main concerns centred on the Progressive Unionist Party and Ulster Democratic Party, the small groupings which speak for the main loyalist paramilitary groups.

Yesterday neither was giving guarantees that they would be ending their ceasefire. at the multi-party talks when they resume next Monday at mas break. The general fear is that the withdrawal of even one of them from the talks could lead on to a hreakdown of the loyalist ceasefirc.

The Government is also anxious to keep the largest party. David Trimhle's Ulster Unionists, at the Stormont table. Mr Trimble yesterday met Tony which both sides described as constructive.

As the political activity continued, Catholic Belfast buried the latest of its dead, 31-year-old Eddie Treanor, who was shot in the north of the city on New Year's Eve. At his funeral, the Catholic hishop of Down & Connor, Dr Patrick Walsh, ap- til the end of the week to prove pealed to politicians to work together, adding: "Do not dispirit us any further with petty shows

Rumhlings of discontent con- of rancour, bitterness and illtemper. There is so much at stake. Lives are at stake. Every

single life is precious." Reports persist that the Ulster Defence Association, which is one of the elements involved in the talks, was behind the shooting. On Sunday, a majority of UDA members held at the Maze prison voted to withhold their support from the peace process, though it was said this did not mean they favoured

The UDA leader in the jail, Sam McCrory, said: "We want to Stormont following the Christ- send a clear message to the Government that we don't want to play second fiddle to Sinn Fein-IRA or any republicans. If they're going to give any concessions to republicans they have to give them to loyalists also."

David Ervine, who is leader of the Progressive Unionist party which has links with another paramilitary group, said Blair at Downing Street for talks after meeting Dr Mowlam: "I'm not talking about breaches or collapses of the ceasefire. I'm talking about a process that needs fixed. If it is not fixed it will run into the sand."

His colleague. Billy Hutchindead in a loyalist attack on a bar son said not enough had emerged from the meeting for him to attend the talks next week, adding: "She has got unshe is going to make changes."

 David McKittrick, Ireland Correspondent

Drivers ignore drink advice

Police vesterday hlamed a hard core of motorists yesterday for ignoring their "Have none for the road" advice and raising the Christmas drink-driving figures.

One of the worst areas was Wiltshire where 20 per cent of those breath-tested after accidents were positive. The number of positive tests by Essex police showed a rise compared with last year, and police in Staffordshire were "moderately disappointed" after 70 drivers over the limit.

Inspector Les Dyble said: "There are still a hard core of drivers out on the roads who seem to have no regard for the consequences of this anti-social behaviour."

Drivers appear to have listened to the message in Scolland where the number of motorists failing the seasonal tests dropped to barely one in every 200 tested.

Britain's big-cat warning

People could be killed in Britain unless the Government wakes up to the reality of leopards and pumas living and breeding in the countryside, an expert warned yesterday.

Quentin Rose, a zoologist and trapper who has investigated hig cat sightings for six years, said said the big cat phenomenon extended far beyond the legend of the "Beast of Bodmin Moor" and had to be taken seriously. In the last six years he had identified 27 reliable reports

of leopards and 32 of puma, and 18 smaller members of the cat family - jungle cats, leopard cats and occlots. Sightings were not confined to the South-west but included

Dover, the Midlands, Wales, East Anglia and Scotland. He said: "People are going to be killed swoner or later."

Badgers killers start appeal

Four men convicted on DNA evidence yesterday launched an appeal against their five-month jail sentences for killing a badger. Garry Shaw, 29, of Rowsley. Derhyshire: Michael Holland. 32, of Chaddesden, Derby, David Wragg. 32, of Kilburn, Derbyshire; and 38-year-old Russell Pettipierre, of Alderwasley, Derbyshire, were convicted by Bakewell magistrates last September. They deny joint charges of killing

a badger, digging for the animal, and interfering with a sett. At the end of the prosecution case at Derby Crown Court vesterday. Judge James Orrell quashed Shaw's conviction after a defence submission that he was only a spectator. The appeal was adjourned until today.

Non-fict

New educati could leave r

Government #12111 raise stancant create educa: ?... apartheid and teach ethnic mironic trailing, a 'ear or 'ea relations carried warned yests --nett ich Educa Editor, reports North of England education :: - - -

Non-fiction tempts boys to catch up with the girls



Forging ahead: At every stage, more girls reach national curriculum reading levels than their male peers

Boys should be given fewer story books and more fact-based material if they are to catch up with girls at reading, schools are to be told. The move was revealed as the Government announced a range of measures to redress the balance.

Fron Abroms, Political Correspondent, says it could prove controversial.

Everyone agrees that something has to be done to stop boys from falling further behind girls at school. But not everyone agrees on how to do it.

Figures in the new guidance being sent to all schools this month provide stark reading. and they show that the gender gap appears early. At seven, 21 per cent of girls reach national curriculum level three in English, compared with just 14 per cent of boys. At 11, level four is reached by 69 per cent of girls and 57 per cent of boys, and at 14, level five is reached by 66 per cent of girls and 47 per cent of boys.

Photograph: Nicola Kurtz Curriculum Authority is sug-

gesting that boys might do bet- terests and hobbies, but felt that ter if the non-fiction books they their schools took little acread at home are used more in count of this.

are worried that the approach will simply reinforce stereotypes. They agree with the Government's advisers that boys should be helped to catch up through clear goals and more structured lessons. But Ann Barnes, general secretary of the National Association for the Teaching of English, said restricting boys' chances to read stories would be wrong.

"If that's what we are going towards that is a really serious mistake, and a seriously narrow menu to put in front of them. It is important to get them to read whatever they want to read, but I think it would be a great mistake to just feed boys

factual things," she said. The QCA's guidance says inspectors have found that few teachers monitor the differences in boys' and girls' reading patterns effectively. They also found poetry was less popular with boys, who often preferred active pursuits to the more "sedentary" reading and writing.

However, boys at secondary school enjoyed performing. and were often articulate and adventurous in oral sessions. Now the Qualifications and They often read extensively and regularly about their in-

They had to be cautious But some English experts about admitting their pleasure in reading hecause of negative peer group pressure. They often had to make links with girls or rely on adults for recommendations and for opportunities to share their interest in books," one case study says.

Boys' stories often failed to meet the criteria for high grades at GCSE hecause although they were actionpacked and imaginative they were also poorly plotted and weak on characterisation. Girls, on the other hand, placed more emphasis on emotions and characters.

A spokeswoman from the QCA said the guidance aimed to provide practical tips on how to help boys.

"Can Do Better takes the issue of boys' underachievement one step further beyond the stereotypes, for example by looking at how aspects of school life and teaching arrangements impact on boys' work and attitudes to English," she said.

The new guidance will follow a speech yesterday in Manchester by Stephen Byers, the Schools minister, who hlamed "laddish anti-learning culture" for boys' poor performance.

New education standards could leave minorities behind

Government plans to raise standards could create educational apartheid and leave ethnic minority pupils trailing, a leading race relations campaigner warned yesterday. Judith Judd, Education Editor, reports from the North of England education conference.

Some ethnic minority pupils schools under legislation now before Parliament.

Under the Government's Ouseley, chairman of the Comlocal authority representatives racial stereotyping.*

and education experts in Bradford. Those at the top would be quicker to exclude pupils and some ethnic minorities would be concentrated in sink or "Del Boy" schools, he said.

Racial stereotyping by teachers and the high level of exclusions among Afro Caribbean pupils must be tackled if standards are to rise across the board. While exam standards have risen steadily overall, some failed to share in the improvement, Sir Herman added.

could be condemned to sink the Government to review its and figures showed that the schools because of the creation plans for raising standards, he problem was getting worse. of three new categories of attacked the national curriculum for teacher training for failing to mennion racial disadvantage.

school standards and framework they are to tackle the high lev-Bill there may be a pecking or- els of racial harassment found der of schools. Sir Herman by inspectors, [and] support to class. Young people's disaffecovercome their own unwitting mission for Racial Equality told but terribly damaging negative if the curriculum failed to reflect

"It is inconceivable that six times more hlack Caribbean boys deserved to be excluded than their white counterparts."

If standards among ethnic minority pupils were to rise, we needed more ethnic minority teachers. He said the Government should monitor the numher of ethnic minority entrants to teacher-training. The last set of figures six years ago showed there were hardly any, and even ethnic minority groups have fewer in senior jobs. Ethnic minority applicants were less likely to find teacher-training places In a speech which challenged than their white counterparts

He also attacked government advisers at the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority "Teachers need support if for trying to impose a curriculum which reflected the culture of the white English middle tion with school would increase the world they knew, he said.

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Brown extends age limit of Welfare to Work

Welfare to Work is to be extended to the over-25s at an extra cost of £250m, Gordon Brown disclosed yesterday. Some sceptics suggested there were not enough unemployed youngsters to fill up the schemes. Fron Abrams, Political Correspondent, looks at the thinking behind the Government's latest move.

A million employers will receive an appeal from the Government this month to take part in its £3.5bn programme designed to help the unemployed off welfare and into

Launching pilot schemes for the under-25s in a dozen areas, the Chancellor said that companies should commit themselves to a national crusade to clear the social divisions caused by unemployment.

Under the "pathfinder" schemes which hegan yesterday, 18- to 24-year-olds who have been out of work for at least six months will be offered four options to get them into work. They will choose between a job, a sixmonth spell with the Environment Taskforce, six months' voluntary work and full-time education, All those who opt to work will also spend some time studying.

Employers will be offered £60 per week for six months to contribute to the costs of recruiting and employing each young person. Anyone who fails to find a place will have one allocated to them by the Employment Service, and will have their benefit cut if they do not take it.

The extra £250m for over-25s will fund a development of this New Deal scheme which focuses primarily on the young jobless - designed to encourage the more mature unemployed hack into work. Employers will he offered a £75 subsidy to take on the long-term unemployed, lone parents will be offered help to find work and disabled men and women will also be given opportunities to work.

Although the under-25 scheme, funded by a windfall tax on the privatised utilities, may be amended on the basis of the pilots, 10,000 places are expected to be available by June. However, Mr Brown faced questions yesterday on bow the Government could fulfil its promise to get 250,000 long-term unemployed youngsters back to

work when only 122,000 had been out of work for more than six months. More were coming up to the six-month mark, he said. and in fact the total numbers of young unemployed were much higher.

There is a huge problem. There are nearly 400,000 young people who are out of work. We said over the course of a Parliament we would help a quarter of a million young people," he said in an interview on BBC radio.

Launching the scheme in Scotland, he said rights would go hand in hand with responsibilities. There would no longer be an option for young people to stay on benefit. "The old deal, of paying people a few pounds in henefit and then forgetting about them, failed the unemptoyed and failed Britain. Today begins the long haul towards full employment," he said.

However, David Willetts, the Tory spokesman on employment, said the number of young unemployed had actually halved between the time of Labour's preelection pledge and the launch of the scheme. "Of course, anything that helps people into work we support. But what we doubt is this programme's imbalance between putting £3.5bn - 90 per cent of the money - towards the young people when already we have great success and they are only putting a relatively small amount to the middle-aged and long-term unemployed, where the problem lies," he said.

The Liberal Democrats, meanwhile, attacked the scheme for its lack of permanence. Any programme funded by a oneoff levy could not succeed in the long term, their social security spokesman, David Rendel, said. Ministers should also be cautious about how they spent the money.

"If they rush into nationwide implementation before assessing the project, they may find they have wasted the one-off proceeds of the windfall tax oo an expensive flop, leaving the problem of youth unemployment unsolved and unfunded," he

Two Labour backbenchers, Lynne Jones and David Hinchliffe, also expressed doubts about the scheme. "If they feel that it is a compulsive scheme, theo it might become devalued in their eyes," Ms Jones said.

Mr Hinchliffe warned that the Government oceded to be sensitive to individuals' concerns, such as the lack of availability of public transport and the "genuine difficul- Throughout the Western world, the Christties of some of the unemployed".

... while in US the low-waged turn to charity



Can you spare a dime: The Depression drove thousands to soup kitchens in the US, now welfare reform could be doing the same

Photograph: Hulton Getty

Even the sharpest critics of welfare reform in the United States have been forced to acknowledge its benefits. The number of claimants has fallen, while predictions of increased destitution have not been borne out - or have they? Mary Dejevsky weighs evidence.

mas seasoo is a time for charities to draw

gry - and so they did in the US. That Second Harvest, the biggest food charity in the US, should have released its findings now, rather than a month ago, however, suggests that concern, rather than fund-raising, is its prime motive.

Its preliminary findings have surprised charity workers. According to Second Harvest, which co-ordinates the distribution of more than \$1bn of donated food annually. demand rose last year by 14 per cent on average, and by up to 50 per cent in some places. Donations fell.

"People come to us because their cupboards are hare," said Sister Christine Vladimiroff, a Benedictine nun wbo runs the Chicago-based charity. "We don't want to have to say, 'Well, ours our, too'."

A survey of 29 cities for the US Conrequests for emergency food bad risen by an average of 16 per cent in the year to June 1997, the largest increase registered for five years. It found almost 20 per cent of applicants were turoed away, and that in half the cities surveyed, food donations fell short of what was needed.

Similar reports bave come in from cities all over the US. The New York City council is considering a \$2m (£1.2m) in-

attention to the plight of the poor and hun- crease in its subsidy to city food hanks, to found jobs. Some, they say, are the very peocover the rise in demand and fall io donations. From Massachusetts, the Salvation Army reported a 62 per cent increase in demand for its services. Some 14 per cent of the population of the state, one of the richest in the US, were recorded as visiting food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters.

Some blame the tocrease in appeals for food directly on welfare cuts in eligibility for food stamps, the main means of state assistance to the poor. It is four months since the last of the federal cuts in food stamps came into effect - these deprive, among others, legal immigrants of working age and narrow the eligibility for disability support - and one theory is that the effect is now working its way through the system.

Second Harvest, however, cautions against oversimplification. Many states ly off in work than they were before. ference of Mayors reported last month that have made up benefits withdrawn by the federal government. In Massachusetts, officials note, the increase began before the main cuts in food stamps took effect.

Some ideotify a double treod which could prove more damaging than the withdrawal of food stamps alone. Their analysis suggests the increased numbers of people applying to charities are not only some of the projected US budget surplus people whose food stamps and benefits have on those who risk hunger in the most prosbeen cut - for instance, those who have not perous country in the world.

ple for whom the welfare reforms are supposed to be working so well: single mothers who found jobs and are oow working.

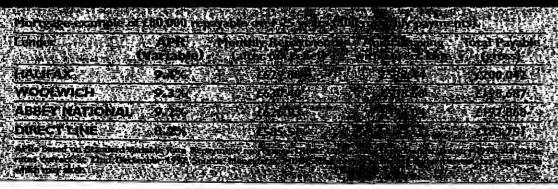
The vast majority of those who are newly employed are earning only the minimum wage of \$5.75 an bour. For the first six months, in some states longer, these workers' bealth insurance and child care continue to be subsidised. In time, however, those henefits are withdrawn. The costs of housing, food, childcare and medicine add up to more than a minimum-wage worker can afford. A system of credits makes up some of the gap, and the ideal is that workers will make their way up the job ladder.

. The fear of some welfare reformers is, bowever, that some will never move far beyoud the lower rungs - leaving them as bad-

With economists predicting a possible slowdown in the US economy this year, the prospects for an improvement in the lot of the poorest workers looks hleak. Second Harvest is among the charities boping that President Bill Clinton, in his State of the Union address this month and the budget proposals that follow, will choose to spend

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Mother tells how fire killed children hotline jammed

The mother who lost her four clearly distraught throughout young children when fire swept through her home in a seaside resort yesterday spoke of her

Speaking from the hospital where she and her partner are per halcony of the flat, he said recovering after escaping from the blaze which gutted their fire was when the second home in Harbour Street, Nairn, north east Scotland, Sylvia Porter said: "My kids were my

Clearly beside herself with grief, Ms Porter told Grampian Television that she had tried in vain to get hack into the burning maisonette.

"I tried to get in to get my children. I just could not get in. I just could not get to them." Youngsters Greig, 10, Sylvia,

six, Douglas, four, and three-month-old Shane perished in Sunday morning's fire which has shocked the local community. The cause remains a mystery. Sylvia Porter's partner, Dou-

glas Nicoll, who also struggled

to rescue the children, was also

house as flames swept through the interior with ferocious He said he had got the children onto the upper verandah

the first he had known of the

youngest child ran into his

room shouting: "Daddy, there's

Nicoll said he had got the fam-

ily to the upper floor of the

Weeping uncontrollahly, Mr

and closed the door hehind them and tried to get over the balcony in order to bring them "I thought there was time to

get them off but the flames were so intense, and then there was an almighty bang. I knew what it was, it was the verandah he-

Diana memorial

The Althorp Estate in Northamptonshire, the final Lying in his bospital bed resting place of Diana, Princess of Wales, is set to become one where he is recovering from two hroken ankles which he susof the most popular summer tained when he fell from the updestinations for day-trippers.

Yesterday, the hotline for tickets opened and almost immediately became jammed. Perhaps after September they should have known. But yesterday staff at Althorp said even they could not have predicted quite the degree of public interest in visiting the family estate

From the moment the telephone lines opened at 9am, the operators - around 200 of them - were besieged by a deluge of calls from people wanting to visit the grounds and the converted stable block that will house an exhibition to the princess's life. At times yesterday morning, callers were met by a BT message announc-

where Diana is buried.

inquiries an hour and had sold 10,000 tickets.

"This was entirely unprecedented so we just did not know what to expect," said an estate spokeswoman."We always knew it was going to be husy but we were never sure just how busy. We have been receiving calls from all over, from America, Germany, and Holland. There has been great interest."

Before yesterday, staff at Althorp had taken steps to try and cope with demand from would-be visitors. Tickets are being limited to six per person and only visitors who have obtained tickets in advance will be permitted entry. The 24-hour botline will remain open to until the end of August.

One aspect that might put some people off is the cost of the tickets. At £9.50 for adults, £7 for senior citizens and £5 for children, a trip to Althorp will ing that lines were too busy. By not be the cheapest of days late yesterday evening, staff out.

- Andrew Buncombe

Bristol physicists win prize for sub-atomic breakthrough

Michael Berry, a British physiand Israeli physicist Yakir Aharonov, who got his PhD at Bristol, have won the 1998 Wolf search work in quantum mechanics. They will share the \$100,000 (£62,500) prize. the rael, announced yesterday.

The two men won the prize cist based at Bristol University, for their discovery of important characteristics in the behaviour of subatomic particles. The foundation cited their "dis-Prize in physics for their re- covery of quantum topological and geometrical phases, specifically the Aharonov-Bohm effect, the Berry phase, and their Wolf Foundation, based in Is- incorporation into many fields

Their research "has stimulated and motivated a large amount of theoretical and experimental activity in widely different fields of physics over the last 30 years," the foundation

were dealing with more than 500

Professor Aharanov, born in tol University. In 1959, he and the late David Bohm successfully

predicted the behaviour of a charged subatomic particle, such as an electron, under certain circumstances - which became known as the Aharonov-Bohm effect. Professor Berry expanded on that work, and his findings are now seen as "an integral part 1932, received his PhD from Bris- of modern quantum physics".

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Channel of division: How Europe has split British politics

THE COMMONS SCEPTICS



William Hague's **Shadow Cabinet** is dominated by Euro-sceptics led by John Redwood,

Michael Howard, Smith, and Peter

If Mr Hague slips, Michael Portillo would challenge for the crown, but is trimming. The Eurosceptics are underpinned by an effective grass roots force, through Cafe

(Conservative Action for Europe) which includes Lord Tebhit, Ian Duncan-Smith and the former whipless Tory rebels: Sir Richard Body. Nick Budgen, Chris Gill, Teresa Gorman, Marlow, Richard Shepherd, Sir Teddy Taylor and Wilkinson.

the European Safeguards Committee, formerly run by ex-MP Peter Shore; the torch is now carried by Denzil Davis, Tony Benn, Alan Simpson, and many members of the Campaign Group of left-wing Labour MPs. Other sceptics include the Bruges Group and Labour's Euro-scepthe Referendum

tics are members of

Tony

John

BRITONS FEAR EURO



Most people want to remain in Europe but an equally clear-cut majority oppose involvement in a Single European Currency.

Mori found that 50 per cent were opposed to monetary union, compared to just 39 per cent in Only 22 per cent

of people wish to sign immediately. An overwhelming

67 per cent of people were against joining a

BUSINESS OPPONENTS

Although they

number, the

Euro-sceptic

plenty of clout.

The Institute of Di-

rectors, led by Tim

The sceptics: From the top, William Hague, Michael Howard, John Redwood, Lord

firms have

may be small in

United States of Europe with a federal government. Only 19 per cent said they supported

Part of the reason might he the belief that joining would sign Britain up for ever: 65 per cent said they felt Britain would not be able to leave once it had

ly Euro-sceptic, as

is Dixons, under

The Governor of

the Bank of England,

Eddie George, told

the Labour Cam-

paign Group: "it's the

wrong time, and the

the arch-Euro-scep-

tic, Stanley Kalms.

Sixty per cent believe joining a single currency would result in the transfer of control over the setting of tax rates to politicians in Brus-

A similar percentage of people feel British taxes would he used to reduce unemployment in other member-

wrong place ... hut it's alright by Helmut

...". But "steady Ed-

die" says in a glossy

hrochure to be pub-

lished on Thursday

for Britain's presi-

dency that British

firms are right to pre-

pare for the euro.

The fallout from yesterday's pro-Europe Tory letter to The Independent has provoked renewed speculation about a realignment which crosses traditional party boundaries

THE COMMONS ENTHUSIASTS



The big hitters on the pro-European wing of the Tory

party have decided to come out fighting behind Tony Blair, Gordon **Brown** and Euro-enthusiasts in the Cabinet, after being

silent in the

general election.

They are dominated by Tory stars of the past - Michael Heseltine, Kenneth Clarke, Lord Howe, John Gummer, and Sir Edward Heath. But they are convinced they speak for the heart of the party some of them joined half a century ago. They have

the backing the Tory Positive European Group, and the Tory Mainstream group. and a cross-party network through the European Movement No members of the Cabinet admit to being sceptics but Robin Cook and John Prescott are cautious supporters.

SCOUR the highware around the highest Wales, searching au cars parked on the roadside. ... Correspondent longer at radical plans to persuade motorists to switch to

public transport ...

Snowdenia National

Notes that the second of the second of

Prefabs

BRITONS WANT TO KEEP TIES



The most recent opinion poll suggested that, despite being an island nation, most people

think Britain needs to remain part of Europe.

Most Britons believe its future lies with some involvement in Europe, Mori found 58 per cent would rather stay in the EU than pull out. Only 35 per cent said they felt Britain was better off without this bond with its European cent are encouraged and influenced by the CBI, which has come out in favour of clos-

er European links. From a purely party political position, Labour's more Euro-friendly stance does not seem to have alienated it from the electorate. The survey, taken in November, found

partners. Some 28 per that 56 per cent would vote Labour if there were an imminent election. The Conservatives would gct 30 per cent of votes, the survey suggested. Most Britons are attracted by the possibility of lower interest rates, although the vast majority feel this is unlikely to be a result of closer links.

BUSINESSES WARMING TO EURO



Big Business is firmly behind the moves towards

economic and monetary union, judging that a single currency will bring exchange stability and make it easier to sell goods in Europe.

The CBI president. Sir Colin Marshall. chairman of British Airways, gave backing to the Chancelline include BP. BAT. Vauxhall, Guinness,

Parkinson has been warned by a pro-Euro delegation that the Tories would

chairman, Cecil

lor's policy of joining lose all credibility if when the time is they went into the right. Businesses next general elecwhich support this tion with the CBI backing Labour, instead of its natural and Northern Foods. allies in the Conser-The Tory Party vative Party.

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Patten lays down marker for tilt at future Tory leadership fight

By signing yesterday's letter to the Independent challenging William Hague's leadership on Europe, Chris Patten has sided firmly with the pro-European wing of the Tory party. Our Chief Political Correspondent on the battle for the soul of the Conservative Party.

The former Hong Kong governor's decision to sign the letter to the Independent was seen by his friends as a move to put down a marker against the Tory leader's scepticism over the single Euгореап сигтепсу.

"He has made it clear he is not trying to catch the ephemeral mood of the Tory party. It indicates to William Hague that there are forces who are more contemporary than Geoffrey Howe that are not prepared to see the Tory party hijacked by the Euro-sceptics," said one senior Tory who signed the letter.

Mr Patten, who recently bought a house in west London, where he spent New Year before planning a return to his farmhouse in France, has told allies he is not making up his mind about whether to seck a seat in the Commons until the aulumn, when he has finished writing his shortly before Christmas at Central Of-

BY COLIN **BROWN**

own "Hurdish" doubts about the euro but regards the euro debate as the most important issue facing Britain and Europe since Bretton Woods, and it is "not tenable" for the Tories to suspend any decision for 10 years.

Lord Howe was behind the decision to organise the letter, and he persuaded Mr Patten to sign it last Friday. The former foreign secretary has taken a leading stand in warning the present leadership of the Tory party that the euro enthusiasts have been silent too long and will not stand back while the party is taken over by the Euro-sceptics around Mr Hague.

Lord Howe delivered his first warning in a letter to Lord Parkinson, the party chairman, before Christmas, described by his allies as "stinging". The letter warned the party chairman that they were prepared to speak out to challenge Mr Hague's policy of ruling out a single currency for 10 years. That was followed by a meeting

Tory Positive European Group, led by Kenneth Clarke, to leave the party chairman in no doubt that they meant husiness.

Those who attended included Sir Ray Whitney, a right-winger who is pro-Euro, lan Taylor, a former minister and David Curry, the former agriculture minister. Both Mr Taylor and Mr Curry had resigned from Mr Hague's front bench in protest

at his line on Europe Some members of their group warned Stephen Dorrell, the shadow education secretary, that he could not remain on the fence. Mr Dorrell and Sir George Young, the other pro-Euro spokesman in the shadow cahinet, decided to stay, but are now under pressure to speak out. They were joined by Michael Jack, another pro-Euro Tory, who replaced Mr Curry. The underlying question about the letter is whether it will lead to a final split in the Tory party, with the pro-Euros leaving to form an independent rump on the Tory

They could follow Peter Temple-Morris, who is now an independent shiring with Labour, and Hugh Dykes, who defected to the Liberal Democrats after losing his

The introduction of voting by proportional representation for Westminster elections would almost guarantee a split. But Sir Edward Heath has made it clear book. The former party chairman has his fice with a delegation of the officers of the he is staying put, whatever happens.

EU PRESIDENCY AGENDA

Tony Blair's priorities for the rope across Britain. The meetpresidency of the European Union, marked by a conference in London on Thursday, will be: flexibility in Euro markets; johs and education; small husinesses; and equal opportunities, The Government will host council meetings in Wales and Scotland to open doors to Eu-

next six months of Britain's ings will include laying the ground for the euro, although Britain has said it will not join the first wave. On Thursday Mr Blair hosts a press conference with the Commission president. Jacques Santer, Over the coming six months there will be EU presidency events in many parts of the country,

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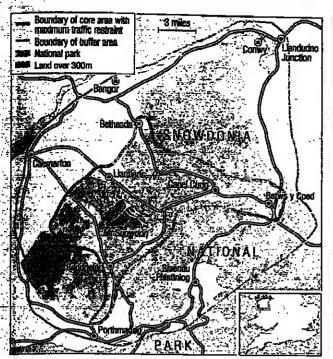


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Drive is on to save Snowdonia from blight by cars



Traffic wardens could scour the highways around the highest mountain in England and Wales, searching out cars parked on the roadside. Nicholas Schoon, Environment Correspondent, looks at radical plans to persuade motorists to switch to public transport in Snowdonia National Park.

· Road tolls, barriers and soaring car parking charges will all feature in an extensive, six-month study into managing traffic in northern Snowdonia which has

· The national park is already blighted by private cars during August, summer weekends and public bolidays. The park authority says the congestion and despoliation are bound to get

Together with local councils, the Welsh Tourist Board and the Government's Welsh Development Agency, it has commissioned the study from a group of expert consultants, headed by the University of Wales at

The hrief is to come up with

a strategy which will persuade visitors to the core of the park - the highest, most scenic mountain parts - to leave their vehicles nutside this area and either use public transport, nr walk or hicycle in. The park authority is concerned that local people may oppose this strategy, and is anxious

to win their support. Locals worry that visitors will be turned away. damaging businesses, and that their freedom to drive around their own area may be restricted. But, says the park's head of planning policy Peter Ogden, lo-

worse unless something is done.

cal businesses and employment make them spend more time peak periods, 1,000 cars or parking without using yellow would hopefully be boosted by shifting people out of their cars. "A lot of people drive into nn the way into the core of the the park for just a day's walk- park." ing or climbing and spend noth-

area," he said.

here, rather than just whizzing through the towns and villages

New car parking policies ing, nr next to nothing, in the are expected to be a key part of the emerging strategy. At pre-"Our aim in trying to get vis- sent, it is legal to park on any itors out of their cars is to roadside in the area. During legal restraints no roadside 9.30am for much of the year.

more can be parked along a three mile stretch of the Ogwen Valley which carries the A5 through the park, turning the road into one huge, linear - and entirely free - car park.

Mr Ogden said the consultants will look into the scope for space car park there is full by

lines. They will also consider parking charges will be spent encouraging people to leave their steep increases in parking charges for the small number of cars nutside. The possibility of car spaces within the core area. non-polluting electric buses, At present it costs £4 to park for and double decker open-topped a day at Pen y Pas, in the heart sightseeing huses, is heing nf the mountains. The 120-

"If they are viable in major tourist cities like Bath and Lon-

don, then why not here?" said The extra revenue from car Mr Ogden. The park authority wants to

cut the number of cars in the core area, but not the number of visitors. Visitors will be encouraged to leave their cars in the surrounding towns and villages, where there will be park-



Green valley: Snowdonia National Park aims to encourage visitors to leave their cars at the edge of the park and use public transport, walk or cycle

Prefabs get listed status

Sixteen prefab bungalows built in 1945 under the wartime Temporary Housing Act were yesterday added to the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest - the first prefabs to he awarded the accolade.

Decades older than their expected lifespan, the council-owned prefabs in Wake Green Road, Birmingham, are still

feared their character was at risk from a re-roofing scheme.

About 156,000 temporary bouses were built under the Act between 1944 and 1948. when government funds dried up well short of Winston Churchill's goal of half a million new homes.

much-loved homes, but English Heritage totally altered by brick cladding. Aluminium prefabs oxidised away and 8,000 timher-framed homes imported from the United States collapsed after 15 years.

> The Wake Green Road homes listed in Grade II yesterday by Tony Banks, the heritage minister, are a particularly well-preserved group of the rare Phoenix type of

the detached homes retain original features put together from asbestos sheets on such as fitted interiors and garden sheds. English Heritage has just carried out

a thematic study of post-war public housing. However the Wake Green listing was hurried forward because of plans by ing in them has been there for years and Birmingham City Council to carry out reoovation work. With timber and bricks in Most have either been demolished or which less than 2,500 were built. Most of short supply, the Phoenix pre-fabs were

concrete foundations. Elain Harwood, the EH inspector responsible for post-war buildings research, said the bungalows were "warm and snug ... everybody who is livyears and won't hudge'

 Stephen Goodwin, Heritage Correspondent



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It's what you want to know





Three schoolchildren, 16-year-old Nicola Moore, and 14-yearolds Robert Boardman and Keith Riddings, from the Saint James High School in Bolton, Greater Manchester, died in the crash in the Alps near Moutiers. Nineteen other youngsters were injured. six of them seriously. The court, delivering its sentence, found Shaw guilty of manslaughter and failing to control his vehicle. The prosecutor had called for a fine and a two-month suspended jail term.

Shotgun husband jailed

A jealous husband who shot his wife three times as she played a round of golf was yesterday jailed for eight years. Godfrey Stuart Jarrett. 58, admitted attempting to murder his wife Julia in "a moment of madness" after she told him she was divorcing him. Stafford Crown Court heard. Mrs Jarrett survived the attack, but the court was told she was suffering from post-traumatic stress and hundreds of shotgun pellets are still embedded in her body.

Free radon gas tests offered

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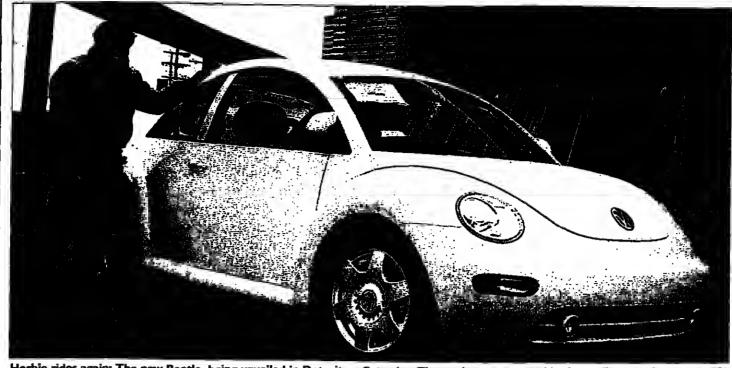
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products

The Government is to offer more householders free radon tests in an attempt to cut the risk of lung cancer. Some 52,000 invitations are being issued next week to homes mostly in the West Country, parts of Yorkshire, the North-east and Lancashire.

Return of the People's car - this time with all mod cons

TOSHIBA



Herbie rides again: The new Beetle, being unveiled in Detroit on Saturday. The car is more retro-chic than utility

Yesterday saw the return to the public of the People's car. The VW Beetle, the world's most popular motor car ever, went on show at the North American Motor Show in Detroit - drawing gasps and praise.

Its new incarnation, however, is unlikely to replicate the sales success of the original. Devised by the Nazis and designed by Ferdinand Porsche in the 1930s, the first Beetle rolled off the production line with a 1.1-litre engine, a rear-mounted, air-cooled engine, a crash gearbox and cable hrakes. In 1949, the car sold in the US for a little less than \$800 and more than 21 million have been produced.

The new model, to go on sale later this year, is more up-market than mass market. Retailing at £14,000 - double the cost of the basic VW Polo - the new Beetle will offer air conditioning, a CD player, front and side airbags and - in a undisguised effort to appeal to young women - a flower vase. Described by VW as both "futuristic" and "for young people who remember the past", it is more likely to appeal to those motorists who fancy - and can afford - a trip down memory motorway.

Randeep Ramesh, Transport Correspondent

l always thought they were expensive

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Salary rises prove that a degree pays

Salaries on offer to graduates are rising well ahead of inflation. Barrie Clement, Labour Editor, also finds that, increasingly, employers are trying to attract the best students by offering sponsorship and work experience.

Starting rates for new graduates grew by 6.4 per cent to £15,500 last year - the third year running that the increase comfortably outpaced the growth in earnings for the rest of the working population.

Recent graduates also saw their salary progression outstrip that of colleagues. Students recruited in1996 at a median £14.774 were receiving £17.000 was said not to be severe. The a year later - a rise of 15 per consensus view was that while cent, according to the Associ- there was invariably a large ation of Graduate Recruiters.

After three years, those taken on in 1994 for £13,500 now earn £21,000 - a massive 56 per cent increase. Following the inthe extension of tuition fees to full-time undergraduates, potential recruits to companies are particularly keen to enjoy rapid

increases early on in their careers. However, money was by no means everything, the association argues in its latest annual on offer, the variety of work, long-term prospects and access to professional accreditation are more important in keeping recruits than salary, it contends.

Some 95 per cent stay with their first-time employers for a year, while 7 out of 10 graduates taken on in 1994 were still with the same organisation three years later.

Members of AGC - mostly large and medium-sized organisations - have an increasing appetite for graduates. Having increased their intake by 13 per cent last year, members calculate they will need 18.5 per cent more in 1998.

Employers, however, predict a more modest increase in starting salaries this year of around 3.2 per cent to £16,000 -a prophesy which might have more to do with wishful thinking than scientific prediction.

More than half of the 264 respondents reported that they were unable to fill all the vacancies - although the shortfall pool of applicants for jobs, it was difficult to identify the high calibre candidates.

There were complaints about the "skill mix" from those holdtroduction of student loans and ing degrees in scientific and technical disciplines. Although academic competence was not doubted, there was concern over the lack of "interpersonal skills and commercial awareness".

Roly Cockman, chief executive of the association, emphasises that a degree is survey. The quality of training worthwhile. The message from this survey is that, even with the projected financial implications for students, university education is potentially a very good investment, particularly if they Once young people are re- acquire some work experience cruited, they tend to stay put. as well as a good degree."

GRADUATE STARTING SALARIES 1996 (£) 1997(£) Change(%) 000,81 19.225 6.8 16,000 16.850 5.3 14,575 15,500 6.4 13,902 ₩.7!3 13,000 H,000 Figures exclude London allowances

DAILY POEM

Risks

By Reur Adoock

When we heard the results of our tests we felt rather smug (if worried): we said to each other loudly in public "Well, that's it for space-travel; we mustn't go up there again. We can't afford to be bombarded with any more radiation, dammit!"

No more risks: that was the policy: In which case what are we doing here scrambling along this rocky gorge with hardly a finger-hold to bless us. and the bridge down, and a train coming, and the river full of crocodiles? (I think I invented the crocodiles.)

Our Daily Poems until Monday 19 January (when the winner will be announced) come from the 10 volumes shortlisted for the 1997 T S Eliot Prize, presented by the Poetry Book Society. All the authors will take part in a reading on Sunday 18 January at 7.30pm at the Almeida Theatre, London N1 (box office: 0171-359 4404). This poem comes from Looking Back (OUP. £6.99). © Fleur Addrck.

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Expect the unexpected - the safest bet of all It is fashionable at this time of year to predict events in the months to come. But even the most respected analysts are likely to get things wrong.

It is probably best to start with a reminder of the most spectacularly impressive performer in The Independent's stock market tips for the past 12 months: three-year-old Amber Stevenson, who, with the judicious use of a pin, put the performance of the panel of invited experts to shame.

In politics, the story is often the same. Over the years, the most dramatic events have rarely been predicted. The small handful of observers who predicted the fall of the Shah of Iran were dismissed as lunatics, especially when they also suggested that the little-known cleric Ayatollah Khomeini might be his successor. In January1989, leading analysts famously suggested that the prospects for substantial change in eastern Europe were slim. By the end of the year,

BY STEVE **CRAWSHAW**

the Berlin Wall was down, and Communist regimes had collapsed across the region. As it happened, The Independent got it

sort-of-right on that occasion, suggesting in a special report in January that goalposts were on the move across the region. Most events come almost out of the blue, however, such as the demonstrations and slaughter in Tiananmen Square in 1989, or cellor's office who had never doubted his Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait in 1990, followed by the Gulf war.

own victory, cruised back to power.

Four years later, the same pattern has

been repeated. For the entire German press.

it was time for Kanzlerdämmerung "twilight

of the Chancellor", in the headline writers'

phrase, Now, as the election later this year

draws closer, the commentators have again

begun to accept the likelihood of yet another

victory by the Great Survivor. He might still

lose; but don't bet on it.

There are some mistakes that become familiar, over the years. Everybody makes them, in turn, Living in Germany at the time of the last federal elections, I held out for what seemed like a long time against the conventional wisdom of the German press, which insisted Helmut Kohl would soon he gone. I had, after all, lived through the "John Major, the man who hasn't a hope" campaign of 1992. Eventually, L too, wrote my political obituary which confidently buried Mr Kohl. Shortly afterwards, the the ary writers have turned shy. As the first part tide began to turn. And, come October of the BBC's Tsar Boris: The Yelisin Years 1994, Mr Kohl, the only man in the chandramatically showed last weekend, this man



Feeling groovy: Despite his unorthodox campaigning style, Boris Yeltsin has confounded the pundits time and again

Viktor Korotayev/Reuters

is a survivor against all odds. In 1993, a colleague in Moscow was astonished at my rashness in betting that President Yeltsin would survive in power until the end of the tinue to simmer without an explosion. year. Three years later, I joined the ranks of those who believed he was now mortally wounded. And then, a few months later, Mr Yeltsin came houncing hack centrestage, as though he had never been away.

Boris Yeltsin is another man whose pous hy surprise. Conflicts, too, erupt and vanish in an unlitical death has been predicted so many predictable fashion. It was possible in times that even the most confident obitugeneral terms to predict the Yugoslav wars (Misha Glenny, then BBC corre-

One day - it is a fact of life - he will go.

Even then, however, he will prohably take

scaremongering when he predicted bloodshed). But it is usually difficult to guess which conflict will errort, and which will con-

When things in Northern Ireland have looked most optimistic, hopes have promptly collapsed. Equally, when the situation has looked most hleak, it has sometimes proved that this is the moment when things are beginning to get better. In the Middle East, the same agnosticism may be appropriate. Everything seems to indicate that the prospects for the peace process will spiral downwards. But then, the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin came at a time when there was greater optimism than ever before. It spondent, was rehuked by his employers for is at least theoretically possible that the time. But we cannot know when or how.

of greatest pessimism may also be the time when the political market begins to turn.

The chaos theory applies to nothing more than to politics. A single event - a death, an accident, a suppressed demonstration - can have dramatic knock-on effects elsewhere, All sorts of surprises can occur. In Cuba, Fidel Castro will die one day; what then? Will the regime survive his death? In North Korea, the economic and political pressures continue to build: when and how will they finally explode? In Nigeria, the regime shows no sign of heading for democracy - what changes will come?In Russia, will Mr Yeltsin's eventual successor be a democrat or a nationalist? We know that there will be change.

Here is the news (maybe)

Big news usually comes as a bolt from the blue. But here are some points to watch, where you can at least decide whether your favourite commentator has got things right or embarrassing-

• If Helmut Kohl wins the federal elections in September, he will become the longest-serving Chancellor in German history.

He has been written off again and again. Current opinion polls suggest that 70 per cent of Germans think now is the time for a change. But he has faced worse problems than that before - and come out a winner on election day.

● In the Middle East, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government could collapse as his coalition unravels and Yasser Arafat may become too ill to lead the Palestinian Au-

Barely two years ago, there were high hopes of the peace process, as negotiated by Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin before his assassination. Now, hopes are few. Pessimists have the upper hand.

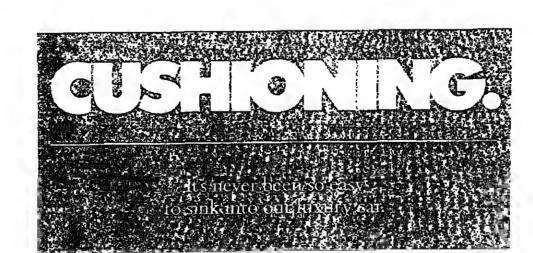
● The so-called "Tiger" economies of Asia enter 1998 after their most dramatic and turbulent year ever.

The markets that were supposed to expand for all eternity have suddenly gone into an astonishing tailspin. The IMF may not have seen the last of the currency crises, as speculators continue to test the underlying strengths of east Asia's economies.

■ When Boris Yeltsin gets a cold (or seems to be suffering from an overlong hangover), the news agencies put out bulletins marked "urgent", and the markets go into turmoil, because of the fears associated with his demise.

But economics, not politics, could also make the headlines in Russia in 1998. With the rouble re-denominated, a more efficient tax-collection system, and more deregulation, Yeltsin may be laying foundations for himself or his chosen successor to win the presidential elections of 2000, if he survives

— Gidon Freeman



Italy in Euro row over refugees

from Turkey began to wash up on the shores of southern Italy in the week after Christmas, Europe has been facing its immigration problem from hell. So far, about 1,200 of them have arrived - for the most part in rickety ships setting sail from Istanbul - and up to several thousand more are expected in the next few days.

Although much of the European Union is now supposed to be practising a common immigration policy, the influx has provoked a hitter row hetween Italy, which is offering the Kurds temporary asylum, and Germany, where many of them are probably heading.

The crisis has done little for relations between Europe and Turkey, which has done its best for the last 13 years to keep the repression of its Kurdish minority within its own borders, and it has provided a golden opportunity for various mafia groups, who are making the most of the opportunity to establish new arms and drugs

smuggling routes. The immediate cause of the influx is Italy's recent adhesion to the Schengen group, by which eight European Union countries

Ever since boatloads of Kurds practise an open-border policy among themselves, along with what are supposed to be tighter immigration controls on outsiders. For years, Italy was denied full membership of the Schengen group because of fears about its porous coastline - some 8,000km - and hecause of its immigration policies which give illegal immigrants every opportunity to enter the country and then vanish without trace.

Under current legislation, which is under review, immigrants declared illegal are given 15 days to leave the country - plenty of time to head northwards to France or Germany. That helps to explain why Manfred Kanther, Germany's Intenor Minister, is accusing the Italians of irresponsibility by let-

ting the new Kurdish arrivals in. The Italians maintain they are screening the Kurds to separate genuine refugees, which it says it welcomes "with open arms", from undesirables. Both countries, meanwhile, are coming under heavy pressure from Ankara not to recognise any of the immigrants as refugees, arguing that there is no problem with the Kurdish minority that need concern any country.

- Andrew Gumbel, Rome

ister, Benjamin Netanyahu, last

tion of his foreign minister,

World balloon Netanyahu attempt fails survives vote

to pilot a balloon non-stop around the world ended on the night survived his first parliaedge of the Black Sea yesterday, mentary test since the resignastymied by low winds, low fuel, and equipment problems that David Levy, at the weekend. left him shivering in his cockpit. The 1998 budget passed by a

After flying about one-third comfortable 58-52. of the way on his trip, which began in St Louis last Wednesday, the millionaire commodities trader landed smoothly about 50 termined to serve out his full miles north of Krasnodar, in

- AP, St Louis



Police carrying away a demonstrator yesterday during a protest against a visit to Hong Kong by Yang Shangkun, former president of China, who is widely regarded as being behind the Tiananmen massacre

Peking's tolerance tested

Protesters in Hong Kong yesterday attacked the visit of the former president of China. This time they got away with it. But Stephen Vines says the real test of how much democracy the former colony enjoys under the new order will come in six months.

The protesters were out yesterday to greet Mr Levy sealed his departure Yang Shangkun, 90-year-old former presby voting with the opposition. ident of China, who is widely regarded Mr Netanyahu says he is dein Hong Kong as one of the architects of the Tiananmen Square massacre.

term until November 2000. Few Mr Yang is the most senior of the retired Chinese officials who have been visbelieve he can succeed. -- Eric Silver

holds an official position in the hierarchy, he is still an influential figure.

As is becoming customary, the Hong Kong authorities were secretive about his itinerary and deployed large numbers of police to provide security. However. demonstrators from the anarchist-inclined 5 April Action Group discovered that he was having lunch with the Chief Executive. Tung Chee-hwa, at the former Governor's residence, and staged a sit-in outside its gates.

They called for Mr Yang to take responsibility for the massacre and demanded he should go home. In theory, demands of this kind could be regarded as subversion under Hong Kong's new mini-constitution, called the Basic Law,

although what counts as subversion has

iting the territory. Although he no longer yet to be defined. The police removed the protesters on grounds of obstruction, insisting their removal had nothing to do with the nature of the demonstration. No one was arrested. Nor were any of those taking part in a subsequent demonstration demanding the release of political prisoners in China. Such demonstrations on the mainland meet an instant response and might end in prison sentences for those involved, but Mr Tung has said demonstrations "are part of Hong Kong life". It is questionable how much longer they will remain so. New public order laws place greater restrictions on demonstrations and the ability of organisers to stage them. The biggest test will come in June, when Hong Kong democracy activists stage the annual Tiananmen Square commemoration rally.

Lithuanians elect 'foreign' president

Voters in Lithuania have cho-ers turned to Mr Adamkus, an sen an elderly American citizen for their president in preference to a local politician nearly half

Final results published yesterday gave victory by the narrowest of margins to Valdas Adamkus, 72, who fled from his annexed Baltic homeland in 1944 and did not return permanently until last year when independence was re-established.

The election of Mr Adamkus, which Russian television claimed was the first case of a foreigner becoming the president of any country, came as a surprise, as he had trailed far behind his opponent, prosecutorgeneral Arturas Paulauskas, in the first round. Mr Paulauskas, 44, is respected because of his commitment to fighting organised crime, although some are suspicious of him because of his

Communist past. But after the father of Lithuanian independence, Vy-tautas Landsbergis, threw his weight behind the émigré, votecologist who speaks Lithuanian with a heavy accent. He won 49.9 per cent of the vote compared with 49.3 per cent for Mr Paulauskas.

Mr Adamkus was granted Lithuanian citizenship in 1992 but did not give up his US passport. He said Russia would remain "our main partner in the east, but Lithuania will continue to seek membership in the European Union and Nato". Moscow opposes Nato membership for the Baltic states, with whom the Kremlin has has slowly huilt up a new relationship since they regained their inde-

pendence in 1991. "Perhaps Lithuanians think an American president will be more likely to take them into Nato," said Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the Russian parliament's Foreign Relations Committee, "but rather I hope the election of an American will be a compensation for them for not

entering Nato." - Helen Womack, Moscow

Moi calls for cash as he starts fifth presidential term

Daniel arap Moi was sworn in as president of Kenya for the fifth time yesterday, with all the pomp due to a man who for the second time in five years has thoroughly

outwitted his enemies. The cockerel symbol of Mr Moi's Kenyan African National Union party flew in the hreeze as Chief Justice Zachaeus Chesoni administered the oath on Uhuru Park's reviewing stand, watched by 20,000 loyalists. Flanked on the podium by President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and President Benjamin Mkapa of Tanzania, Mr Moi stiffly acknowledged his people's salutes

and he wanted to leave office with the country's deep tribal divisions healed., It was, he said, his intention

ty. This would be his final term

of office, he reminded Kenyans,

to use his final administration to improve infrastructure, health care, education, governance and employment, while fighting poverty and corruption. With the International Monetary Fund holding back \$205m in aid due to concern over his record on these issues, Mr Moi also had a pointed message to the international donors - "the diplomatic community needs to know. that for democracy to survive it with his sceptre-like white rod.

He called for national uni—

Ed O'Loughlin, Noirobi



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Cannabis Quiz

13/HEALTH

The Great 1998

Cannabis Quiz

HAMMOND

Just been invited round for

Pot Noodles at the Straws?

Then why not amaze the

whole family with your pot

knowledge. These fascinating

snippets are sure to fill even

the most embarrassing con-

versational pause. Please

note, the quiz is only suitable

for adults and those studying

1 Cannabis is derived from:

a An animal; h A mineral:

c A bushy plant, Cannabis

sativa, found wild in many

parts of the world and easi-

Well done, Keehle, your

questions on Cannahis start

2 The most powerful psy-

a The tetrahydrocannabinols;

b Cannabis sulphate; c

a The commonest form of

cannabis in the UK; b Resin

scraped or ruhbed from the

plant and compressed into

blocks; c easily mistaken for

a Spelt incorrectly; h

Stronger than resin hut not

as strong as dubin; c Dried

a Derived from resin con-

taining roots, h Derived from

the flowering tops of unfer-

tilised female plants; c Par-

7 Cannabis was first docu-

mented as a herbal remedy in:

a Luke 4 vs 7; h A Chinese

pharmacy text in the first cen-

tury AD; c Boots, Lowestoft,

a is available on an NHS pre-

scription for treating certain

conditions (eg strangulated

piles); h Was available on prescription until 1973; c Has

never been prescribable on

9 The non-medical use of

cannabis in Britain was pro-

a In 1902 after the Boer

War; b in 1928 after Egypt-

ian objections at an interna-

choactive ingredient is:

Louise Botting

3 Hashish is:

a bogey

4 Marihuana is:

plant material

5 Sinsemilla is:

ticularly strong

6 Cannabis can be:

Injected; c Worn

8 Cannabis:

the NHS

hibited:

ly cultivated in Britain

for a curfew violation.

Starter for 10:

tional opiate conference; c In 1958 by Harold Macmillan

10 In the UK, it is legal to cul-

a Never; b For decoration

only; c If you have a Home

11 Your chances of getting a

Home Office licence from

a Zero; b Less than zero; c

Less than mine, because 1'm

a doctor and I can cultivate

12 Cannabis usage is greater

than the national average

a Have experienced full-time

further education; h Have

ovaries; c Attend Age Con-

a Half cannabis, half dande-

lion; h A particularly strong

home variety, grown from im-

ported seeds; c Something

I've made up to catch you out

14 If you're a quarter-of-an-

ounce-of-resin-a-day person,

a All over the place; h A

sissy; c On about a joint an

15 While intoxicated, a user

may do less well on tasks re-

a Short-term memory, h

Concentration; c Manual

16 The risk of fatal overdose

a Virtually nil; h Between 1

and 2 per cent; c 5 per cent

17 Long-term use of cannabis

a Nothing definite; h Lung

18 At street level, if you

paid £50 an ounce for herbal

and £14.25 a quarter of an

ounce for resin, you'd be:

a Getting it at retail prices

19 What is a Camberwell

those who see in society's at-

titude to drug taking the op-

portunity for questioning

traditional values and social

judgements of all kinds...

This seems to be the real chal-

lenge of soft drugs, and it is

growing... It is time to make

clear that teepage drug taking

is ill-advised, if not dangerous

to personality and health":

a Jack Straw; b Micbael

Howard; c Alice Bacon,

Home Office Minister 1967

1c, 2a, 3abc, 4c, 5bc, 6ac, 7b,

8b, 9b, 10c, 11bc, 12a, 13b,

14ac, 15abc, 16a, 17a, 18ac,

19 a 12-skinned amalgama-

tion of a toilet roll and an ice-

cream cone stuffed with dope,

invented by Danny from

THE INDEPENDENT

Withnail and I', 20c

Correct answers:

has been linked with:

cancer; c BSE

h Ripped off

c Very careful

a Smoked, drunk or eaten; h 20 Who said, "Today there are

bour round the clock

quiring:

cern luncheoo clubs

13 Skunk weed is:

it for research purposes

tivate cannabis:

Office licence

Jack Straw are:

by those who:

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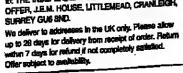
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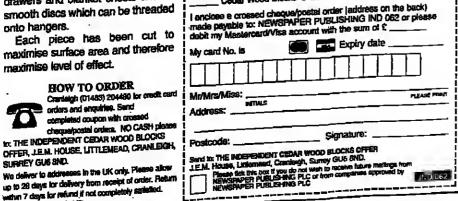
These cedar wood blocks are a natural alternative to using moth balls and other harsh chemicals to protect your clothes. It is the cedar oil in the wood that is repellent to moths, fleas and ticks, yet the aroma is fresh and aromatic to human beings. The blocks come from a species of Cedar called the

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onto hangers. Each piece has been cut to maximise surface area and therefore maximise level of effect.







The all-consuming chromosome

Christina Corrigan died last November of heart failure. She was aged 13 and weighed over 48 stone. Her mother, Marlene, is now on trial in California for child abuse and a key issue in the case is whether she was to blame for her daughter's death. But could Christina have been suffering from a rare genetic disorder, asks Jeremy Laurance.

The story is both tragic and surreal. To see your teenage daughter ballooo to six hundredweight, a bloated blob of flesb so beavy she could not move from her bed, is possibly a parent's worst nightmare. The stretcher used to remove Christina's corpse broke and it took four firemeo aod two deputy corooers to lift ber. She was unwashed and covered in hed sores and fungal growths. She had been unable even to heave herself off the sofa to get to the bathroom.

How is it possible for a person – a child – to consume so many calories? Marlene Corrigan's lawyers helieve they have the answer. They are claiming that ber daughter was suffering from Prader-Willi syndrome, a rare condition whose main symptoms are an uncootrollable appetite and a tendency to temper tantrums. Sufferers also commonly have weak muscles, under-developed genitals, and sometimes facial characteristics including almond eyes and a fish-shaped mouth, and a low IQ.

Rosemary Johnson, spokeswoman for the Prader-Willi Syndrome Association in the UK, said: "My first thought when I read about this case was that she could be a Prader-Willi. As well as her obesity she apparently could be quite bloody minded - that also fits in. If she was obstinate and narrowminded, she could have made

life hell for her mother." The most difficult aspect of the syndrome, for pareots and sufferers alike, is the obsession heen known to eat 4,000 calories in two hours (a day and a half's meals for an average person). They will steal food from the kitchen and squirrel it away for snacks later. They will scavenge in rubhish bins and have been known to eat wallpaper, bedding, even polisb. Ooe died after eating large

quantities of jam and salt. What makes people eat without stopping? Christina Corrigão was already so beavy at the age of nine, when she last saw a doctor, that she had difficulty walking the short distance from ber bome in Martinez, California, to school. She weighed 17 stone and her doctor said she should eat less and exercise more.

Four years later her weight



her last months in front of the television, unable to leave the family room. She could find no clothes to fit and wore either a ally, they cannot pass it on. kaftan crocheted by her moth-

with eating. Sufferers have—the rest of us get after eating a good meal. They only feel full when there is, literally, no more room. For most people the sense of fullness comes long before, through a complex mechanism of chemical messengers travelling between gut and brain, Investigation of the breakdown of this mechanism in Prader-Willi parients could one day yield clues to the western world's great obsession:

the control of eating. Prader-Willi syndrome was first spotted in the UK 35 years ago by Dr Bernard Laurance (my father, as it happens) but is named after the two Swiss doctors who had earlier described it in a German medical journal. It is caused by a defect on chromosome 15 which is now detectable in almost all cres-

had almost tripled. She spent es by a blood test. The defect is believed to occur at or near conception, but because those affected do not develop sexu-

Between 3,000 and 5,000 er or lay maked under a blanket. people are thought to have What Prader-Willi sufferers the syndrome in the UK and lack is the sense of fullness that there is no cure. Although it is now better understood, it remains a grim diagnosis. Parents must rely on tough management which often means locking kitchen cupboards and the tridge and exerting tight control over diet. Early diagnosis so that the strict dietary regime can he imposed from the start, hefore weight begins to rise, intpowes the long-term prospects.

Christina Corrigun was an apparently normal 7lbs Hitz baby but hy the time she was three her weight had soured off the charts to oblbs and at five it was up to eight stone. Hospital tests for diabetes and thyroid function failed to disclose any problem and from the age. of eight she apparently gave up on dicting, refusing to follow her mother's strictures or to join her on enbhage soup diets.

fused to go to school hecause of taunts about her weight. Eventually she refused to leave the house. Mrs Corrigan said:

hecause of her weight." The desperate circumstances of Christina Corrigan's short life and early death demonstrate how the loss of appetite control can kill. In Britain in the mid-1980s, a 25year-old man with Prader-Willi syndrome died weighing 46 stone. The Sun reported that a JCB digger was required at his funeral to lift the coffin,

Mrs Johnson, whose 17vear-old son. Matthew, is a sufferer, said: "At that time, we all thought that is how our childreo would end up. Now we know it isn't so and it is important not to be too depressing for parents whose children are newly diagnosed. There is reason to assame they may not stay delicately thin but there is no reason why they should become grossly bloated and obese,

From the age of 11 she re- with proper management."

Mallhew, who was diagnosed at six months, is a normal weight for his height of 5ft hut this has only been achieved he eats," she says.

He is now away at college hut the canteen is under strict instructions to take his order the day before and serve him fixed portions. He is not free to pick and choose as the other stu-

"It is much more difficult when they grow up and leave home. Living independently is not a safe option for Prader-

Willi sufferers because of the emotional and control issues." A simple blood test could

have established whether

Christina Corrigan was a Prad-"How could I get her out of the as a result of the iron discipline er-Willi sufferer but for the last house. I couldn't pick her up imposed by his mother. "He has four years of her life she had no and carry her. Everything was no choices. What be gets is what medical attention. Mrs Johnson said: "There may have been other causes for her condition. But I cannot understand why her mother didn't involve someone else. Where were the teachers and social workers? Why didn't someone step in and help?" The Prader-Willi Syndrome

Association (UK) can be contacted at 2. Wheatsheaf Close, Horsell, Woking, Surrey GU21 4BP: Tel: 01483 724784

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Blade Runner? Cail 0930 563406

vital signs

Hope for back pain sufferers who fear their condition will worsen as they grow older comes from the Pain Research Institute, the Liverpool-based charity. Evidence shows that most will either stay the same or improve with time and their chances of improving are higher if they practise pain management techniques. These are based on gentle exercise and relaxation combined with pain According to Dr Chris Wells

of the institute, those who suffer the least are the ones who exercise regularly making an effirst to change their outlook and ignore the pain as much as possible. Pain control techniques and relaxation can be just as effeetive as pain killers in relieving the agony of a had back. Coping with back pain an audio tape produced by the Pain Research Institute (£13.00 mc p&p), is available from Talking Life, PO Box 1, Wirnd 1-47 7DD or tel: 0151 632 0662

Every year 350 children in the UK develop cancer of the brain or spinal cord. Desperate in their distress, some lamilies appeal for money to send then children to the US for treatment believing that is their

An inquiry by the Royal College of Paediatries has tound that the expensive, highly publicised treatments are all available in NHS hospitals and that results are as good as anywhere in the world, with half the children likely to be cured.

The reasons why children are referred abroad are that NHS services are fragmented and doctors may not know where to send their patients. The report, "Guidance for services for children and young people with brain and spinal tumours", calls for a national network to treat children with hrain cancer based on the 22 existing children's cancer

A dying patient needs different care from one who is terminally ill. The last days of life are very important, with profound psychological as well as medical consequences. A new guide from the National Council for Hospice and Specialist Palliative Care Services says the care needed when death is imminent is so distinct from the previous palliative care that it resembles a gear

The guide warns that dying patients tolerate symptoms very pointy because of their weakmust he prescribed and administered regularly to control existing symptoms and to prevent new ones developing. and never withheld pending the results of investigations." The British Dental Association is urging the Government

ness and debility and that their

intensity can escalate rapidly to

very severe distress if they are

not controlled. "Treatments

to take stronger measures to support water fluoridation after a survey of MPs showed seveo out of 10 supported adding fluoride to water supplies to prevent tooth decay. The survey follows recent figures showing decay was much more common in five-yearolds in non-fluoridated areas than in fluoridated ones. The association says urgent

action is necessary to make water suppliers comply with requests from health authorities: "Health Authorities and the BDA believe that water suppliers are misinterpreting the act and frustrating Parliament's original intention. Water fluoridation is the single most effective public health measure which health authorides can use to reduce 100th decay."

Jeremy Laurance

Calls cost 50p per minute at all times. Winners picked at random after lines close 8 Jenuary 1998. Usual Newspaper Publishing rules apply Editor's decision is final

Shedding a little light on landscape in the dark time of the year

A collection of Turner watercolours can be seen in Edinburgh, for one month only, at the start of every year. Something to do with topography, suspects Richard Ingleby.

The National Gallery of Scotland's January exhibition of Turner watercolours has long been an annual institution, as much a part of the new year in Edinburgh as is a hangover from Hogmanay. There are 38 of them, bequeathed to the Scottish nation in 1900 by the collector Henry Vaughan with the strict stipulation that they only be shown in the first month of the year "when the light is at its

I'm not sure if Vaughan, a Londoner whose family forever visited Scotland's capital, hut I suspect that he didn't. Otherwise he would have known that his precious watercolours would have been perfectly safe for a lot longer than he specified - some days in Edinburgh it doesn't get light at all, save for a brief glimmer of dawn at around lunchtime. In recent times this has all become an irrelevance anyway since the pictures are shown in a dimly lit

would be much the same in July, hut it is to the gallery's credit, in these days of disrespect for donor's wishes, that they have upheld the terms of Vaughan's bequest for over 90 years. Inevitably these circumstances have given this annual exhibition an air of importance that it wouldn't otherwise have. It's not that the pictures aren't any good - just that the sense of occasion which surrounds their showing has given them a treasured quality that has little to do with the work itself.

Edinburgh were not the sum of Henry Vaughan's collection. He also owned drawings by Michelangelo and Raphael, as well as Constable's Haywain weakest and least destructive". and numerous other Turners which are now in the National Gallery of Ireland. On the tune came from making hats, evidence here, however, he had rather conservative taste. Broadly speaking, these 38 watercolours span the whole of Turner's career and there are plenty of fine examples, but Vaughan's leaning was more towards the topographical sketches made for the publishing projects that were the bread and butter of Turner's life than to the late great works on which rest his place as the founding father of modern art.

The Edinburgh exhibition

natural light. The conditions begins with a group of grey-blue views of English towns which look more like the work of Girtin than Turner, and may well be. These belong to the batch of works described as "the Monro school", a reference to Dr Monro's evening academy for promising young painters in watercotour, a class that included Cotman and De Wint alongside Girtin and Turner. and whose members' unsigned offerings all look pretty much the same. They are unremarkable pictures, but set a tentative topographical tone for what The watercolours given to

> show here are those where Turner allowed himself to step outside the requirements of illustration and into the realms of the sublime, taking landscape to the edge of abstraction. One of the most effective of all is a tiny watercolour of Loch Coruisk painted on a trip to Skye in 1831. Two tiny figures (including Turner himself, perhaps, as one of them appears to he sketching) are perched oo a rock above the loch; all around them a swirling vortex of hill and sky seems set to swallow them up. At a glance, it is a little hard to read hut, for all his illustrative skills, Turner's genius was never in the detail. It is an image filled with power and presence: the scene seems



a postcard

be forgiven for thinking that the man so often hilled as our nation's greatest painter couldn't

enormous, but it is painted on well, but in his more successful a piece of paper no higger than works (such as Loch Coruisk) it doesn't matter. The people Looking at these water- aren't the point. If they are there colours, particularly at a view of at all, it is just to give a sense Durham Cathedral, one could of scale or increase the drama -people, his pictures tell us, are cluding a representative group small, nature is very, very hig.

There's not enough of this paint people. Actually he sort of thing in the Vaughan Be-

perimenter with colour and light, above all light. None the less, in his quest for a complete collection Vaughan gathered some marvellous things, inof pictures from Turner's three Venetian tours. The greatest of looks the other way, not to the

the daringly empty Sun of both sea and sky, hut a little sketch of Venice from the there in 1840. In this the artist couldn't, or at least not very quest for my liking, not enough of familiar architectural sights, green blue sea and a smudge of 6200) to 31 January.

of Turner the explorer and ex- grand though these may be, or sooty smoke from a passing Venice, in which the white of the his most masterful, most evocapage is left to do the work of tive, when he took himself to the edge. It's in works like this that the future of modern art lay. 'Turner Watercolours: The Vaughan Bequest' is at the National Gallery of Scotland, the these is not one of his depictions glories of Venice, hut out to a Mound, Edinburgh (0131-624

Forget icebergs, let his escalator art take you for a ride



Mind the gap: Lawrence Weiner, right, and his latest invisible installation, Towards Motion', amid the Christmas decorations at Canary Wharf Photo: Hugo Glendinning

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not exactly in your face. In fact, you may not notice it at all, even if you look at it. Judith Palmer catches up with the elusive US conceptualist at the site of his latest creation, in an East London shopping centre.

Lawrence Weiner's art is

As I was going up the stairs, I until the end of Fehruary. "Why take up space when it's not necin search of his latest installation, Towards Motion.

One of the granddaddies of conceptual art, New Yorker Lawrence Weiner has been defor over 30 years. What's more, for every one of those years, the world's most prestigious art institutions have continued to commission him to do it, from Dokumenta and the Whitney to the new Guggenheim in Bilbao.

Closer inspection of the escalators in hetween the Docklands Light Railway and the Canary Wharf Tower does in fact reveal the scantiest wee suggestion of an artwork. There, against the glass-sided up- and down-escalator panels, thinly traced out in blue-edged transparent type, are the words "One for the money ... Two for the show ... Three to get ready ... And four to go ()".

For the most part, the officeohlivious of Weiner's work, hut every once in a while, there's a glimmer of a double-take, as an unduly perceptive punter notices the slight modification to his or her habitual surroundings. "What goes in the brackets, then?" asks a maintenance man. "You," Weiner replies triumphant - "that's where you place yourself." Maintenance man wanders off perplexed.

Filling in the gaps yourself is what Weiner's work is all about. The phrases he chooses to display are all deliberately indeterminate but vaguely suggestive. One "what" for the mooey? Two "what" for the show? Each viewer will read the phrases differently - depending whether they are on their way to or from work; or perhaps, on how much they tike their jobs and how tasty the "to go" option is. Perhaps it's even send-

people to hand in their notice? "Being with this for two pers conspiratorially into his gin-from being an annoyance to a gery whiskers. "If it takes, it will give them something to help understand their relation to the world," he adds. "And that is all that art is supposed to be

Working out what "art is supposed to be about" is Weiner's ics don't come into it. "You make art because you're dissatisfied with the configuration of the world as it's presented,"

met some art that wasn't there. in 1960, tried to alter the con-members matter-of-factly. and will continue not to be there erally, using truckloads of Weiner was studying, discoverexplosives to blast huge craters in fields across California. He essary?" shrugs artist Lawrence soon gave up on the macho py-Weiner, as I scan Canary Wharf rotechnics, however, deciding to Art provided "a hetter quality change the world hy more discreet means.

He formulated a theory, which he has stuck to ever since, that huilding his sculpsigning non-existent sculptures tures was a mere optional extra. ("1. The artist may construct the work. 2. The work may be fabricated. 3. The work need not be huilt.")

Instead of laying physical things down on a gallery floor, Weiner would now just paint a no-nonsense phrase on a gallery wall, such as "many coloured objects placed side by side to form a row of many coloured ohiects".

"I feel it can transcend cultures," he explains, "because, no matter what materials I choose - even the simplest manycoloured objects - they are going to take on a different cultural metaphor in each different place. I would prefer that a work of mine is not exotic. In workers glide between floors Japan they would think of other configurations of manycoloured objects. It's reinvented by each person who comes

Why give them your metaphor?" Weiner asks, in low wide vowels. "Why oot give them the phenomena of the materials together and let them find the metaphor that they need - or don't need - because all art cannot be for everybody."

The phrase "smashed to pieces in the still of the night" would have set off different resonances, he points out, when he painted it on the side of a hunker in Vienna, than it would have done if it had been taid out in pehhtes on a South Sea beach. One environment might. after all, be punctuated by the sound of breaking bottles, the other by the sound of falling

"It intrigues me that a sound ing out a subliminal message for in the day is so different from a sound in the night, when it's supposed to be the same mamonths will give the people here terial," he says. "At 2 o clock in the opportunity to relate this the morning, hearing the same er suddenly forgets his grand three tons of steel falling goes mission to explain the pur-

complete catastrophe."

Weiner got used to the sound of lumps of steel crashing around during his pre-art career as a dockworker. The son of second-generation workingclass Russian immigrants from the South Bronx, he started favourite occupation. Aesthet- working on the docks at the age of 12, got involved as a union organiser, and then perfected the art of watching his back. "A baling hook in the back was the approved way of getting rid of Weiner's earliest works, back lefty pinko faggots." he re-

ing Camus and Sartre at the Public Library, and noticing that the Museum of Modern of girl to flirt with". Aged 16, he started dropping by the Cedar Bar to listen to the conversations of the artists who hung out there. "As a young person, I was terribly impressed by the abstract expressionists." Weiner recalls. "They were extremely open - Kline specifically, Rothko, Newman, as well as poets like Kenneth Patchen

and Gregory Corso." Involvement in Civil Rights protests in the South led to several stints in jail, then plans to become a teacher got diverted by art, for which Weiner still feels slightly guilty.

So why a sculptor? Why not a poet, I ask? An eyehrow is raised in horror, as Weiner reaches with long, angular fingers for another treacly Mexican Delicados cigarette.

Poetry says the reality of the person presenting it is of a different reality to the person reading it," he asserts. "It's a belief that there's an inspiration, and I do think art is just an observation with the acquired skills of presentation. The materials I use are all accessible to all people. Poetry is about a feeling - feelings are not accessible to all people."

Although Weiner regularly shows his text-sculptures in galleries, he is happier creating public works. Already for 1998, he is working on a massive piece to be set around Paris's main ring-road, the Périphérique: and a new commission for the docks in Hull (as part of Arts Transpennine 98). "Art is something looking for its place in the world. When it ceases to look for its place and it finds its place, that work of art becomes art history," says Weiner.

"I have a liking for extremes," he admits. "The only places I'm really happy are places where there's no anecdote."

Then, as if by magic, Wein-



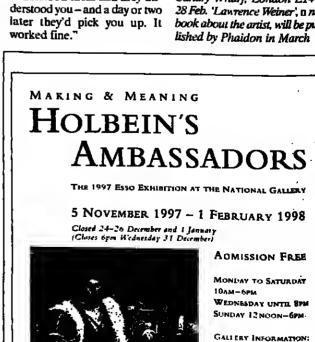
pose of art and gets anecdotal. "I used to ride icebergs," he much away? muses, rearranging the silver bracelets around his tattooed wrist. Come again? "You go to the north of Scandinavia, and literally, for the price of the gas or whatever, you get a helicopter

to drop you off by the cable. Then you'd make a deal with some fishermen - and hope you understood them and they un-

"I don't want people, when they look at a work of mine, to know terribly much about me," he growls mellifluously. "They don't have to. I want them to know terrihly much ahout themselves."

> 'Towards Motion': at The Rotunda, Cabot Place East, Canary Wharf, London E14 to 28 Feb. 'Lawrence Weiner', a new book about the artist, will be published by Phaidon in March

Oh, no! Has he given too





Examine your wall

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15/TAKING CONTROL

Get back in the driving seat and change gear

How does a stress guru cope when life crashes about his ears? in day two of our series on antidotes to the unxieties of the Nineties, ann Treneman finds out

rofessor Cary Cooper may pt be the only stress expert in kitain, hut sometimes it feels at way. Never has someone ith a title as workaday as pecupational psychologist" emed so much in danger of ecoming a guru. The man is verywhere - in the papers, on adio, on television - with an pinion on everything from Gordon Brown's fingernails to he risks of working long hours o the renewed popularity of the ames William and Harry.

The one subject that Cary Cooper does not talk about very much is himself. Until now. But his new book is called Stop the World: Finding a Way Through the Pressures of Life, and you cannot write a book telling us how to take control of our lives without saying whether you have control of your own.

"Ooooohh," be says. "Listen to this lady."

I say that as a Californian he should know all about being open and honest. He says he bas lived in England since he was 24 (he is now 57) and he cringes when he goes back to Los Angeles and people insist on being loving, giving, caring, sharing. "I just want to throw up," he says in an accent so broad that he could be a tourist. "I mean I really do have trouble. I've lived here too long."

But not long enough to just say no to personal questions. The book says that the key to aking control is to know yourelf. Are you an uptight Type A lrives you? Do you see yourself is baving control over events or eing controlled by them? Well I'm definitely Type A," lary Cooper says. "We are ushed, time-conscious, driven, nd push ourselves to the abslute limit. But I am not a forkaholic. A workaholic is idicted to work I may be given, but I have other parts to iome life is totally separate. I eally have two worlds I live in."

All of this would be a hit nore believable if I weren't siting in Cary Cooper's home on he day before he and his wife Rachel are to fly to Los Angeles o spend Christmas with his 86vear-old mother and, incidentally, to take care of some business to do with a US academic journal. "I founded it 20 years ago and, after all that time,

journal he works on. In addition he has written or edited some 80 books and hundreds of articles. Not to mention his rent-aquote tendencies. Clearly this is a man who knows something about being a workaholic, even if he is not one now.

So has life ever seemed out of control? "Now I better tell you the truth. Or I'm going to gel in trouble!"

He tells a story that will be familiar to many: of a young academic with amhitions and a wife and two small children. He worked long hours and, when he was asked to go to a conference here or there, he couldn't say no. The marriage faltered and he didn't know his children as well as he might. "Though I guess you don't know whether it was ambition that drove me, or if I kept travelling because my marriage wasn't so good," be says. "That's the fine line." At this point the occupa-

tional psychologist in Cary Cooper cannot control himself any longer. "You know that the feeling of being out of control is prohably the most significant factor in experiencing stress today. Lack of control is the hig problem now," he says, waving his arms with excitement. "Society is changing so much. The nature of work is changing. There are so much more shortterm contracts and part-time and freelance work. We have the highest divorce rate in Europe. There is the changing role between men and women. That is just amazing; not only are women working hut they are pushing up the glass ceiling, competing with men, getting to senior levels - slowly, hut they are getting there. All of this means there are certain people in society who feel they have no control. Quite a lot of men feel that now. They feel threatened. r a more placid Type B? What People feel joh insecure. How do they get control of that?"

Indeed, hut, perhaps more to the point, how did Cary Cooper get control of his life when his marriage went wrong? He looks startled for a moment, and then conceotrates.

"Let me see. You know how I knew I was in trouble? I got sick. I got what I think now they would call chronic fangue synknew that I was out of control is that I got ill, and for quite a long time. I'm talking months."

For many of those months, he just thought he was ill. "You know, being a psychologist doesn't help when you are looking at yourself," he says. "Finally I did start to wonder if there was something underlying it. I think people should do this if they get. say, persistent headaches and can't find anything organically I thought may be I should let wrong. Or lose their sense of bugo," he says. Nor is it the only mour, become more aggres-



Professor Cary Cooper: "Number One, you need a friend"

sive, start to get lots of minor illnesses. I think you ought to question what the hell is going on. Your body is a machine and. ay life. When I go home I cut drome. Incidentally, I've done like any machine, from time to ff. I'm very good at that. My a study on that. Anyway, how I time it fuses. I think my hody was telling me that there were problems in my life and I had to get them sorted."

But first he had to figure out what was going on. "Number one, you need to find a friend. But it has got to be somebody who is not just a supporter or somebody who, in a Californiatype way, says 'Hi baby, I can belp you out, come here for a cuddle.' What you need is honesty. It's got to he a friend who helps you identify bow you can kind of bully is the boss? Is he gain control. What options are a psychopath with deep-rooted



open 10 you? Some may be wholly unpalatable.

Once again the occupationpsychologist takes over. Did I know that the person being bullied by his or her boss is the perfect example of someone whose life feels out of control in the Nineties? In this case toohe needs to find a friend to help answer some questions. What

problems or a situational hully who is himself overwhelmed by stress? Then you need to look at the options. Should you confront the boss, look for a new job, try and avoid him? "The important thing here, Ann. is that you are making decisions and that gains you control. You are

saying: I've got options!" But, I ask, how did Cary Cooper find out his options? He thinks again. He says he has nev-

er been to a therapist but he did go hack to Los Angeles to talk to his best friend and his family doctor. "It took me a while to take a decision but that started the process." The and young family. "It was a faila failure and you better learn from it. After my marriage dissolved and then I met Rachel and got married and had kids with her, I said, that's it. I'll never do that again."

Photograph: Tom Pilston

And he hasn't. "I really love my work hut I don't let it dominate my life," he says. He is close to all four of his children, trouble me. There was a time who range in age from 25 to 12. "Weekends are sacrosanci, I

Stress: how not to cope

People under stress usually masks annieties that may not try to escape in one way or be as acceptable to admit to. another but sometimes the Rationalisation: lets you tell mode of escape turns out to be a prison in itself. Workaholism, drugs and alcohol are the obvious "wrong turnings" but bere, from Stop the World, are some others: Escapism: getting away -

moving bouse, jobs or marriages - does not work if you don't face the real problem. Fantasy: living life in a daydream allows us to avoid responsibilities. Phobias: causes great distress

hut can also divert from your Hypochondria: gives you a

everybody all the good reasons for what has happened except the real one. Competitiveness: if you take winning too seriously

you can end up suffering from "achievement anxiety" where anything other than complete success is a failure. Perfectionism: creates a vicious cycle of stress.

Romanticism and/or nostalgia: when you think the world really was (and ought to be) rose-coloured. Martyrdom: our attempt to manipulate others while nev-

lot to talk about and often er facing why we are burt.

leave at 5 or 5.30 every day. That is more or less a rule. That's the truth, isn't it boney?" he asks Rachel as she cruises through the lounge. She nods, "I don't work at night and never at weekends. After 5.30 is family,"

At this point Cary Cooper gets locked on to one of his favourite subjects; long hours and the price we pay for it. He word word for it: "presenteeism". Does he ever have the desire to leave his coat on yourself what drives somebody the chair to pretend he's still there at 7pm? "Or to send emails at 2am! That's the new and it's true of myself too - is electronic one." No. he says, be hasic insecurity. It's a basic has been cured of such things feeling that I bave to prove once and for all.

called "Wrong Turnings" which lists the ways people try to deal with stress. Workaholism is there (see panel for others). Has he taken any, new, wrong turnings since he changed his ways? "Let is that too Californian?" me see. I don't drink. I don't smoke. I tell you something l should do more of. I'm not involved in the community enough I'm not actively engaged."

What causes him stress? "It's not deadlines. It's not the mits to still suffering from huramount of work. As a person I ry-sickness and is time obsessed need to be liked and like to be to the point that be will get to liked. I guess you would get a a station incredibly early to lot of psychologists saying that," make sure he doesn't miss a he says. We talk about a stress train. No, he says, but he does diary - an idea put forward in have something else he wants to the book - where you note up- change. "I tell you what. I hope decision was to leave his wife setting events. By the end of a I do this. I hope to god I do. But month or so, a pattern may ure. When you get divorced, it's emerge. For some people it will be events that upset them, for others it will he people. Clearly for Professor Cooper it would be the latter.

> of mine - I shouldn't be saying this to you, should !! - and it was critical of me personally rather than of the book, that would

cause I went on television or talked to the press. I feel very comfortable in my science now hut when I was younger, that really upset me. I am a polymatb. I like doing the media, so why sbouldn't I do it?"

He leans forward. "You know something, Ann, I've done work on successful people. I've written books on it. Quite has even coined the latest buzz- a lot of them look the most secure people in the world and they are not. You must ask to continue to do that and the driving force in these people something to me. Not to you, The hook has a chapter hut to me. Therefore I get hurt if somebody attacks me because I think: maybe they are right, maybe I'm not as competent as I should be." And then he sits hack and smiles. There,

But then preparations for California itself beckon and there is just time to ask him if he has any New Year's resolutions. Does he want to change his Type A hehaviour? He adthen I will need to hreak it down into achievable hits," he muners and then looks at me. "I'd like to do something for my community. I don't just mean giving money but time." I nod "If I read a review of a book because, for a Type A, nothing is more precious than time.

Stop The World: Finding a Way Through the Pressures of Life by Cary Cooper and Murray Watts when people would say that I is published by Hoddern and couldn't be a good academic be- Stoughton this week at £7.99.

It is all very well being on top of things at work when everything is going well, but the real challenge comes when you meet a brick wall. How you respond is the real test of your ability to solve problems and make things happen.

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Description

Examine your wall

It is important to get a problem into perspective. There are those who insist on treating each as the worst thing that has ever happened. But the treatment that works for molehills rarely displaces a mountain. Time spent examining the problem objectively is never wasted and it is a determining characteristic of those enviable folk who have both a sense of proportion and real control over their lives.

Is it really immovable? On first sight the problem may seem too much to cope with. But if you take time to examine it, you often find it is less serious than you thought. Clever deployment of the resources at your lisposal and focused teamworking can

nake all the difference. Who put it there? Who or what has aused the problem? Get them on your side. After all, who better to solve it than the per-

30n who created it? Why is it there? The answer may not be to you're liking, especially if you are worse off as a result, but understanding this can help you to come up with an alternative which meets the constructor's needs without thwarting your amhitions. Occasionally, you might even be convinced of the wall's value and learn to live with it (see below).

Is it really intractable? Frequently the solution to a problem involves rising above it and thinking at a higher level. It may not be as tough as you originally thought.

Is there really no way around? People are sometimes numbed by the dimensions of the difficulty. A glance to the left or the right would reveal that what they are looking at is not a wall at all, but a tower! And bingo!, the solution is to hand.

Does the problem really exist? Are you being overwhelmed by something which exists solely in your bead. Often it is a question of personal history. In this kind of situation, you have always given up, so why bother to check what lies round the corner? Or perbaps you are reacting to gossip. Whatever it is, you fail to make the necessary check. More on this later.

Develop your approach

Think of occasions when you have dealt well with a difficult issue. Scan this list and assess which of the techniques you have used: • Ensure that you have the right skills and can apply them effectively in order to help

you overcome the problem. • Put company politics to work, persuade others of your argument and carefully manipulate the situation so that others may not even realise that it is happening.

• Confront the issue, head on, perhaps in an explosive manner, to clear the air and remove the problem.

 Understand the complexity of the matter, work out how to unravel it and implement the solution methodically. Change direction so that you are not pre-

vented from from achieving your goals. It may be just a question of changing tack. · Learn to love it: you have worked hard to understand the situation and are learning to make the best of it.

It may be that your successful strategy was a combination of these tactics. The trick is to choose the right one and exercise it—the answer expected. at the appropriate time. And in order to • You are fairly conservative.

do that, it is important to understand the nature of the brick wall, where it has come from and why it has come about.

External issues

These may be caused by the world around you - a change in company policy or an organisational culture at odds with your values; or individuals whose view of you does not fally with your own. This does not imply that your own contribution has been negligible, but external forces are involved. Asking for advice and learning from your experiences can help you to break through barriers and work towards an effective solution. But beware, past experience can also be an obstacle to creative thinking and to tackling the problem at all. One of the most commonly heard reasons for not trying something is we have tried that before and it didn't work. Just because a solution was not right for one situation, it doesn't mean that it will not be right for this one.

In order to improve your problem-solving skills, you have to maximise your ability to think creatively. But there are many barriers. Examine the list below. How many

of these do you suffer from? You become trapped in a fixed way of thinking about things.

· You restrict the free growth of ideas within rigid boundaries.

 You are unaware of the assumptions you are making, which restrict new ideas.

 You think in terms of either/or when there may be other ways of looking at things. · You think sequentially, rather than laterally, looking for the best idea, rather than a range of options.

 You suffer from premature evaluation. ie not giving your imagination enough time to look at things differently. You tend to want to conform and give

You fear looking toolish

If you recognise some these barrier then you are probably not exploiting your full creative potential. It may be that you are good at solving problems. But there could be a number of tricks that you are missing. You need to identity the boundaries you are operating within and challenge them. Understand the traps you are likely to fall into and be alert to them.

Creative thinking techniques:

Incubation: relying mure on the intuitive and imaginative part of the brain, instead of the logical, rational bit. Many of us have our best ideas when relaxing, drinking or lying in the bath. This is why it is important to take time off, so that your mind has had a chance to work on the issue.

Image-hased tecliniques: using pictures, analogies, humour and generally putting the sensible approach to one side for a while. Getting people to draw the situntion, or enact it, can isolate issues which could no have been identified by conventional means. Such "silly" techniques often generate the best, most practical, solutions.

Lateral thinking: addressing a problem laterally as opposed to vertically or logically. This includes deliberate and provocative challenging, sideways leaps and rejection of yes methinking.

Influence and persuasion

The way in which people influence others tends to fall into two categories; push techniques and pull techniques. The first is a more active. It may be that you have marshalled all the facts and figures, and you can back your argument up to the hilt. Another type of push is that of carrot and stick - people know what you want them to do, they can physically be pushed around. Alwhat they will get if they do it, and also what they'll get if they don't!

The pull techniques are more subtle. They tend to be associated with creating a tive thoughts can make you more relationship work

desire for the individual to be part of "the club" - getting people to huy into their company's vision would be an example. Pull techniques are characterised more by listening than talking, and by building on other people's good ideas.

When you use these techniques depends on the subject matter, and the subject. Are you dealing with someone who loves targets and responds to the threat of a kick up the backside? Or is it an individual who would prefer a softer touch? By selecting the right approach, you will be able to influence events far more effectively.

Internal issues

Perhaps you lack confidence Or maybe you are working on a hunch - if so beware because could find yourself working on all sorts of false assumptions. In extreme situations, your behaviour could even strike others as paranoid, or at least highly unreasonable. Another self-imposed brick wall is the feeling of having come to a standstill. Perhaps hou have run out of steam. after a really gruelling project. Or maybe your creative juices have temporarily dried up. Even more common is "analysis paralysis", when people are so burdened by the data they have collected that they are unable to do anything constructive with it. There is nothing like cultivating a positive mental attitude. Are you the sort of persun who is always telling yourself you're a failure, that you're not going to be able to cope, that you hate your joh and your life, for that matter? If so, this is sapping your energy. Tests have consistently demonstrated that, if an individual thinks negative, demeaning thoughts about themselves. ternatively, if they talk themselves up, they actually become stronger. And the physical side is only one aspect. Thinking posiself-confident and more able to take control of your life.

People with a negative mindset are often characterised by "loserspeak" - looking on the downside of everything and taking things personally. When confronted by a problem, do you recognise any of these responses? The bold type represents loserspeak. The italics an equivalent phrase in winnerspeak.

Oh no, not again! Ah, this is the same thing that happened

last time I know what to do. Why is this always happening to me?

Sorting out problems like this is part of my job. And others get their fair share of prob-

We'll never get this done in time. What do we need to do to get this done in time? If only I could be more like so-andso So-and-so's good at this, I can go and ask

Re-framing the things you say and the way you think can have a profound impact on the way you approach problems. Solving them successfully boosts self confidence, so the positive response gradually becomes your normal response. Suddenly you can see ways of scaling even the most daunting of those brick walls.

The authors are directors of the business psychology consultancy Nicholson-McBride

TOMORROW First boost your sexual confidence then make your



EDITOR ANDREW MARK DEPUTY EDITOR: COLIN HUGHES. ADDRESS: I CANADA SQUARE. CANARY WHARE. LONDON EI4 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171-345 2435

What should William Hague and bis friends do now? Though the odd hlows bave been landed on New Labour since May, they have been glancing cuffs at best. Few Tory frontbenchers bave any public profile at all - this must he the most shadowy Shadow Cabinet in modern times. There is barely a glimpse of an alternative new Conservative agenda that can't be trumped by Tony Blair. And now the Tory left has ruhhished Mr Hague's one esonant point of difference, his bostile agnosticism about the euro.

The easy answer for the Leader of the Opposition is: do nothing. There are more than four years until the next election. Why rush to create policies now that are likely to be outdated by the time they are put to voters? All that is needed, say some Tory strategists, is that special form of political courage that allows one to sit tight. Everything has its season.

It is a beguiling idea. It sounds impressively self-confident, even wise. But it is also profoundly mistaken. Politics is not all about elections; it is mostly what happens between elections, bow the issues. forces and caricatures are shaped which then determine the election. Lack of seriousness now (which is what a policy of masterly inactivity really amounts to) will count against the Tories later. They will find that there is a resonant anti-Blair movement - but they are not leading it. Or they will find that their years of mumbling simply leave them further behind Blair when the next contest comes.

So, once more, what should they do? The main thing is to try to imagine what sort of party might be wanted by the British by 2002, and start creating it now. One senior American politician, who visited this country recently, surprised some of the Shadow Cabinet by advocating a kind of patriotic futurology, even at the expense of daily anti-Blair campaigning.

In that process of imagining, a few constants will help. People, or at least potentially Tory-voting people, never feel under-taxed. Even if Labour holds income

STORMY WEATHER

tax rates roughly where they are now, voters will be chafing under the weight of new "privatised taxes", such as higher insurance and pension charges. How will the Tories exploit this? What can they offer to cut instead?

Similarly, the traditional British suspicion of central authority and bossiness will be as strong shortly after the millennium as it is a couple of years before it. Under Blair, the gathering of all political power in Downing Street, and a distinct social bossiness offers thinking Tories some interesting ammunition.

To fire it, bowever, they'd have to ditch some old baggage. They would have to accept Scottisb and Welsb devolution and Lords reform, and return to a passionate enthusiasm for local government, before they could credibly oppose Labour on constitutional matters - sticking up for the rights of Parliament as against the executive, for instance. They would also have to take a rather more open and less hidebound approach to social values. In that,

the famous semi-recantation of Michael Portillo a couple of months ago should be their set text.

Then there is Europe. A lower-tax, mildly libertarian and anti-centralist New Toryism might appeal to many voters. But if the party has set itself against a policy monetary union - which by then most voters, and a majority of business, regard as good for jobs and incomes, the Conservatives would still be sunk. The Tories are the pragmatic party, or they are

Many would argue, of course, that monetary union will be ruinous. But our view is that, in any case, the combined power of the City, business leaders and a swathe of senior politicians of all parties will win the argument for EMU in the short term. So it would be bonkers of the Tory leadership to bind itself under all circurnstances to the losing side.

What they could be doing is arguing for a much less bureaucratic, and more politically open EU, with less power for Strasbourg and the Commission. That may not be practical politics in 1998, but it will be tremendously popular in the country in the years ahead. There are other ideas for the Tories to tackle, including a radical rethinking of the cost structure and delivery of higher education in the wired-up world; new ways of paying for the privilege of green countryside in a crowded island; and cheaper defence options. letter the fory lifeby

But, whatever policies are finally at the core of a reshaped Tory party, now is the time to start talking about them. We ar into the ninth mouth since the election de feat and still the most vocal Conservative are the old stagers of the Thatcher gen eration. One of the few gifts of Opposi tion is the freedom to think and speal imaginatively and radically. It is time fo a ferment of new Tory thinking - the bac ideas will have been forgotten by 2002 and the good ones need to be tested. Until that happens, Mr Hague and his colleagues are going to continue 1998 as unhappily as they

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LETTERS

Britain in Europe

Sir: The fact that only six Conservative Members of Parliament joined a Euro Commissioner and a small number of former MPs in signing the letter (5 January) on Conservative Euro policy does, I believe, demonstrate that their views are those of a very small minority. Perhaps most significant of all is that these opinions of the Party's old brigade are not supported with the signatures of one of the new intake of Members of Parliament,

On the basis of discussions with Conservatives at meetings throughout the nation I would offer the opinion that the clear and unambiguous policy declared by William Hague is supported by the vast majority of Party activists.

It is no secret that the decision on joining the Euro currency marks the end of the road in our nation's absorption into a single European state without democracy, and the voters are entitled to have a choice of two parties offering the alternative arguments on this fundamental choice.

As regards the arguments advanced by the Howe signatories, I wonder if they genuinely believe that Britain's trade has benefited from Euro membership. While we formerly had a reasonable trade relationship, our balance with the EU since we joined shows a massive deficit of over £100,000m. Likewise, the claims about agricultural reform seem difficult to square with reality. The CAP remains the most significant and illogical protection racket ever devised by man. And on the issue of economic power I wonder if the signatories have looked at all at the devastating unemployment figures in the EU and if it troubled them that the UK had to create substantial additional unemployment and borrow vast sums of money before the UK escaped from the ERM.

But perhaps the most significant issue neglected by the signatories is the impact of the EU on democracy. EU policies, which now cover a vast area of legislation, cannot be changed in any way through the democratic process. And if the Conservative Party was to co-operate with Mr Blair in entering the single currency, I wonder what the signatories believe should be the issues to be decided upon at the next general election.



expressed in the letter, I believe that our democratic problems in the UK could be greatly simplified if the signatories were to consider a transfer to the Lib Dems or new Labour where their views would be appreciated. SI TEDDY TAYLOR MP (Rochford and Southend East,

House of Commons

Sir: The letter on Europe (5 January) was profoundly impressive - until one looked at the text and the signatories. The former was riddled with the usual weary cliches. Not a word about the £50bn in extra taxes that "harmonisation" of the tax base must entail (an unavoidable consequence of Economic Union, Clause 90, Maastricht Treaty).

The signatories, apart from two businessmen, are pretty firmly men of yesterday, but at least they are consistent. All

were passionately in favour of the ERM experiment which just bappened to cost one million (mainly working class) Brits their jobs, balf a million their homes and drove 100,000 small and medium business

into receivership. That particular nostrum destroyed the Torics' traditional credibility for being economically smart, which 40 per cent of their electorate refused to forgive or forget last May.

When tipsters repeatedly propose three-legged donkeys, the smart punter refers to the form book. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Europe's vastly over-regulated economic form book is bad and getting worse (and no, deregulation will not take place in Europe, because under EU rules it cannot), while ours is

good and getting better. Finally, all your signatories were equally passionately opposed (when in office) to the

British people being consulted thing after all. Maybe now peo-Unjust cannabis law by referendum on their own

destiny. So what is this "when

do so" all about? FREDERICK FORSYTH

the British people freely vote to

Sir: I note that quite a few of the Tory "grandees" who signed the letter in your columns took little, if any, part in the last general election. Some indeed were many miles away through-

I did. I was out on the doorstep every weekday nigbt for three weeks. If there was one thing I learnt it was that the broader public bave an intense distaste for a party which perpetually squabbles in public.

The question all Conservatives bave to ask themselves is. "Is winning the next election the main priority or are there other matters so vital this must take a back seat?" I know where I stand. RODNEY BENNETT

Sir: The Home Secretary, Jack Straw, says that if campaigners can show that cannabis is not a dangerous drug, then the Government may reconsider its stance on cannabis prohibition ("Straw's challenge over

cannabis drugs", 5 January). The evidence bas always heen there. In 1968, the UK Royal Commission, the Wootton Report, concurring with other major reports on cannabis, said that cannabis ought not to be illegal and its use did not pose unacceptable risks. Since then other reports bave concluded that cannabis is not addictive, does not lead to bard drug use, does not detrimentally affect memory or motor skills (including em-

associated with any particular lifestyle. Maybe the arrest of Jack

pirical testing of the effects on

drivers), does not cause cancer

or damage the lungs, and is not

ple will wake up to the fact that this unjust and unworkable cannabis law may eventually lead to the arrest of their own sons and daughters, for using a safe plant in preference to dangerous intoxicants, a crime without a victim.

JACK GIRLING Chainnan Campaign to Legalise Cann-

abis International Association

Sir. I did not wish to know the name of the young man arrested on a charge of dealing in cannabis. Learning his identity, and that of his father, told me nothing useful about the Government, its policies, its probity or any other matter of legitimate public concern.

Micbael Streeter recognises (Saturday Story, 3 January) that "there are good reasons to protect juveniles facing criminal allegations". He then adds. "in cases of teenagers accused Straw's son bas achieved some- of similar offences ... and

named by the media, government law officers bave not stepped in and sought protective injunctions". If it is true that the media are so lacking in wisdom and compassion. then the correct conclusion is that more such injunctions

should be sought, and vigorously upbeld. The Rev PADDY BENSON Heswall, Mersevside

Sir: When 19 years old, I was convicted and fined £100 for possessing (not dealing) less than one-sixteenth of an ounce of cannahis at the Reading Festival. I too come from a "good family".

Now 27, I wish to study for a PGCE and teach primary children. Does the Home Secretary think I would be suitable for sucb a post? I find myself booing that William Straw is also convicted. The weed will not harm his prospects as it has

mine. K SELBY

Welfare reform

Sir: It is amazing that Ken Jackson can so elaborate a condemnation of something that does not exist ("Welfare Reform? We really don't bave any choice". 2 January).

He argues that Tony Blair is right not to defend the status quo, and be criticises those who do. Just who does defend it? No one to my knowledge. So why does Ken Jackson - and various ministers - imply that critics of the Government's bandling of welfare reform are against all reforms and for the status quo?

It is one way of denigrating them. But the fact is that all of the critics I know, including myself, favour changes to the welfare state. I want it to be easier for disabled people who can work to do so. But any change should preserve benefit levels for those who have no prospect of work - and that includes most disabled people. Ker Jackson should have given u' his opinion on that. Lord ASHLEY of STOKE

House of Lords London SW1

Library fever Sir: When young lads aren's watching or playing football they are often drawn to read about it; one valuable spm-off from the success of Fever Puch is that there are now many wellwritten books about every as-

pect of football in print. Canny teachers and parents should therefore load their supposedly bibliophobic charges "Football mania has a lot to answer for", 3 January) with a library about their favourite team - although I concede this might be problematic for supporters of neglected minnows such as Darlington, Halifax or Manchester City ... RICHARD KURT London NW7

Paying for the Pill

Sir: Madeleine Simms (letter, 3 January) carefully overlooks the fact that people may be quite bappy to pay the £40 charge for the Pill, provided it went towards improving medical services for the sick. Is it seriously being suggested that large numbers of people would deliberately risk pregnancy because they are unwilling to contribute to the cost of their own contraceptives? ALAN PAVELIN Chislehurst, Kent

My Ulster

Dodi, Daniel Arap, Greg 'n' Tim, Elton: a boys' own guide to the news in '97



Every year for the past 10 years I have brought you a list of the top 10 boys' and girls' first names of the preceding year. This list is not based, like everyone else's list, on names given at birth, at christenings and so on, but on newspaper headlines, because news names are very different from ordinary names. It is one of the strange things noticed by students of names that the commonest ordinary names such as John and James, Mary and Susan, very rarely crop up in the news. Similarly, names that commonly occur in the news. such as Sting and Madonna, Prince and the artist formerly known as Dana, are very rarely, probably never, given to

This year has been no exception. Indeed, although John Major was induhitably in the news a lot, and also indubitably our Prime Minister until May, the name John never hit the headlines. If a paper had said: "Jobn flies out", nobody would have known wbo it was. John Major? John Prescott? Most people would have thought that, if anyone, it was Elton John who was flying out. We bave often pointed out in this space that if a politician has a handily short surname, the press will always prefer it to their first name, unless the first name is uncommon. That is why we learn to talk about Blair, not Tony, Hague, not William, Clinton, not Bill, and that is wby none

Top 10 this year.

(Indeed, it is hard to think of any politicians who have become famous under their first name. Benjamin Netanyahu is the only famous Benjamin alive today, but be is never referred to as Benjamin, only the faintly ridiculous name Netanyahu. Perhaps Ike was the last politician not to be known by bis surname, apart from Maggie.)

It is also odd how some names are bousehold names one year, and gone the next. (And in the case of Elton, back again the year after that.) Looking at lists from past years I find such names as Sting and Rod, Seb and Red Ken, Virginia and Edwina. Where first time for some time that we both a tabloid editor and a

of those names appears in our are they now? Where indeed? But enough of this speculation and down to hard facts. Here is the list of the Top 10 Boys' Names for 1997, based entirely on newspaper and media analysis. Previous year's

> I. Dodi. 2. Charles..... 3. Greg 'n' Tim 4. Elton .. 5. Daniel Arap..... 6. The Two Johns (-) Piers...... 8. Mobammed..... 10. Gianni.....

positions are in brackets.

One or two notes are in order, I think. First, this is the

bave not had a set of initials in the top 10 news names. OJ was very popular for a while, and so was the South African PW, but this seems to be going out of fashion. Incidentally, you would think that the name Nelson would catch on from South Africa, but Nelson Mandela is another example of the way in which politicians most often become known by

One of the most surprising aspects of the whote husiness was that the overall winner was a name which had never featured before in any position. namely Dodi. though I don't think it will be featuring again next year. Piers owed its popularity to its being sported by

tbeir surnames.

tabloid Member of Parliament. Indeed, political scandal can often catapult a name to popularity: Neil and Jonathan were bobbing round in the top 20, and I am sure that Jack will do well next year.

really well in 1996 was Michael, but almost all the bearers of the name seemed to fade away in 1997. (Flatley, Portillo and Heseltine gave the impression of vanishing, and Jackson sort of did the same, while Michael Hutchence did the same, though even more so.)

One of the names that did

Ralph and Ranulph did quite well, though they tended to get confused, as they bave both been linked to the surname Fiennes. Chris very nearly broke into the Top 10, as it was a name sported by two men in the news last year. Evans and Patten, both of them, like kings across the water, poised perhaps to seize DOWER. Finally, one can note the re-

ceding of the fashion for laddish nicknames. No more chaps called Tel and Del, and not many called Hezza or Bazza or indeed Gazza. This fashion started to fade just in time, for otherwise Tony Blair might have become known as Tozza, which would have been bard to bear, especially for him. Tomorrow, the top girls' names of 1997, the year in which the Spice Girls arrived, Diana departed and the Teletubbies did whatever it is that Teletubbies do.

17/COMMENT

The letter that rocked the Tory lifeboat



WBCLL.

Velfare reform

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DONALD **MACINTYRE** CHRIS PATTEN CHOOSES SIDES

There is a memorable moment in the film of The Third Man when Trevor Howard examines Alida Valli's forged papers and murmurs regretfully, "Good. Very good. But not good enough." This is exactly the right reaction to the rather skilful pretence by the Tory presidium yesterday that there was nothing of real significance in the letter to The Independent from the most senior Tory pro-Europeans. Listening to Michael Howard, you would be forgiven for thinking that there was not a cigarette paper between his own views of EMU and those of the nine former Cabinet ministers and their colleagues who wrote to offer their strong support for the Blair government's policy of actively preparing for EMU. After all, said Mr Howard at his most silky, be himself will support Tony Blair if he pursues the right European policy. It would be 2002 before the euro notes and coins were issued. It would take plenty of time after that to assess whether EMU was working. Was Tory policy - which would rule out EMU entry for at least two parliaments not therefore a simple matter of waiting and

Elegant bunkum but hunkum nonetheless. First, many of the most dramatic economic effects of EMU - including the lockme of interest rates by the participating countries - will probably be apparent well before 2002. Second, if Tory policy is so pragmatic, why on earth was it hardened last year from one of ruling out EMU entry "in the foreseeable future" to one of ruling it out for 10 years, other than to appease those in the party - Howard foremost among them - who are implacably opposed to British entry into a single currency on unchangeably political grounds?

But bunkum for a reason: The alternative defence, that the letter was merely the rightly regards it as crazy for the Tory party same old pro-European story from the same to adopt a programme that depends for its old faces was always a bit threadbare. Ask success on EMU crashing in ignominious vourself who at the moment has more resonance with the British electorate: Ken Clarke and Michael Heseltine - or the current Shadow Cahinet, William Hague included? But threadbare or not, it wasn't available. For the big new catch in yesterday's list is Chris Patten. The former governor of Hong Kong didn't have to sign the letter. He is busy, 70,000 words into his big book about Asia. He isn't by instinct such a full-blooded enthusiast for EMU as - say -Lord Howe or Ken Clarke. Indeed those who talked to him during John Major's visit to Hong Kong in March 1996 were left with the unmistakable - and rather surprising impression that he was nearly as sceptical about a single currency as Major himself. And yet he took little persuading to sign up to vesterday's letter. So what's he up to?

The first thing to say is that Patten has become distinctly interested in the domestic scene once again. Expect a series of speeches and articles about some of the big questions in British politics: issues from wel-

fare reform and the terms on which Blair might be able to huild a cross-party consensus for it - to local government and how Treasury resistance to giving it more power should be overcome. This doesn't, I think, mean that he has decided what to do when he finishes his book and the accompanying television programmes in the autumn. At one level, something relatively non-political, at least initially, is always possible. Who better for example to front and write a TV mega series on the British Empire? But Patten's career has been all about hig public sector jobs; be notably basn't ruled out going for the London mayoralty. And would be be able to turn down, if and when Leon Brittan stands down, the EU commissionership which Tony Blair would be sorely tempted to offer bim? The idea of playing second fiddle in Brussels to Neil Kinnock would certainly not attract. The prospect of a plum EU portfolio just might.

But on the big question of wbether to return to mainstream politics, Patten is still keeping his options open. He is unusually besitant about foisting himself on a suddenly available constituency in a by-election - a course be refused after he lost his seat in . 1992. He would surely be uninterested in the prospect of a job, even, if it were ever to arise, the top job, in his party if it looked likely be in semi-permanent opposition. Some well-connected Tories believe that a referendum vote in favour of PR - and the consequently real prospect of a business friendly, pro-European grouping breaking way from the Hague-led Tory party remains by far the likeliest possibility for luring him back to the Commons, But whatever turn his career takes, be did something important by signing yesterday's letter. Lenin would have called it siding with your 'objective allies". But wbatever you call it, it clearly tells the heleaguered pro-European left in the party that whatever private doubts he may have had about the single currency be, along with Clarke and Heseltine, is on their side.

For it is precisely Parten's relative agnosticism about EMU entry that makes his signature on yesterday's letter so important. Patten has always been more excited by the widening of the EU than its deepening. He probably wouldn't bave started from bere at all. But he was deeply irritated - just as overtures were being made to him about possibly rejoining the new Tory fold via a by-election - that the Sbadow Cahinet hardened its anti-EMU policy. More important, having come to the conclusion that EMU will happen - and that it will be the most important change in international economic relations since Bretton Woods - he failure round Europe's, and therefore inevitably to a large extent round Britain's. ears. This matters, and not only to the Tory

As a politician who looks to the future, Patten has made it much more difficult for those round Hague to claim that the pro-Europeans, such as Clarke, are embracing an obsolete Torvism. But one of the lessons for the Prime Minister is that a consensus is building here that is starting to look distinctly formidable, even in comparison with the Conrad Black-Rupert Murdoch axis of which he has been so wary. It is an alliance which is there to be deployed if and when Blair himself uses the EU presidency to shift public opinion towards Europe, including the single currency. If Blair reads the letter right, be will be just a little bolder than be has so far been. And for all the Tory leadership's brave attempt to gloss over the letter, Hague should worry. It was one more sign that his European policy will end up on the wrong side of history.

Governing by focus groups is just playing at democracy



Giving the people what they are thought to want: the 1987 Royal Knockout tournament at Alton Towers Photograph: Photographers International



SUZANNE MOORE ON ROYAL UNEASINESS

I hope very much that I will be asked to participate in the new focus groups set up by MORI and approved by the Queen that the Monarchy are going to use in order to find out what the public really wants. I am more than happy to be observed belife. I don't mind in the least sharing with my fellow citizens my tips on how the Royals might further annihilate, sorry modernise, themselves. Alas, it will probably not be

yours truly but the usual suspects from middle England who will be rounded up to give their ultra-reasonable opinions on all this. In these gale force days you don't need a weather man to know which way the wind blows, and you don't need a polister to tell you that when it comes to the Royals the winds have changed. Nonetheless the Royal makeover presided over by the courtiers of New Labour has already brought a few cosmetic changes to this tired institution. The blindingly obvious messages have at fast got through. Perhaps hunting and shooting is bad and skiing is good. Perhaps

sneering is bad and smiling is good. Perhaps standing next to pop stars - if you do it with enough irony - is good, while taking yourself very seriously is bad. Perhaps annexing the Blairs as slightly groovier inlaws is good, while withdrawal from public life is bad.

All of these strenuous efforts are being made because of Diana, whose instinctive populism meant that she was always "in touch", indeed too touchy for some. That (through the aid of focus groups) the Royals should try and emulate what came so naturally to her would have surely made her laugh. They will doubtless pay MORI a king's ransom in order to learn how to appear more human. Yet the unquestioned rise of the

focus group is a worrying trend, If we can have government by focus group and monarchy by focus group, why don't we just do away with all these hind two-way mirrors elucidat- anachronistic organisations and ing my finer feelings on the role be ruled by MORI with its using only what is already availof hereditary privilege in British groups of willing and sellselecting subjects. The triumph of the focus group represents both a lack of imagination and a depressing view of human nature, as well as being unother sign of post-ideological politics. Focus groups ask people what is right or wrong with something: they rarely offer them alternatives or ask them to come up with something radically new. As with a jury, often the stronger members of the groups will persuade the waverers to

agree with them. At one newspaper I worked for, a focus group came up with the interesting finding that they all loved one particular columnist. Did he get a raise? No. The problem was that he didn't exist. tAfter one member of the group had observed that he liked his column, the others had agreed that he was the highlight of their daily read.)

What should never be forgotten is that, basically, tecbniques created originally to sell products are being used for a very different purpose indeed: to organise consent and minimise discussion and dissent. Doubtless the techniques currently used are much more sopbisticated than those in

which bousewives were invited to free-associate about washing powder, but the underlying principles remain the same. Thus focus groups are excellent sources of information for those in the business of giving people more of what they are already familiar with, such as another kind of can of beans. They can tell you what consumers know they already want, but they are not set up to initiate or innovate. As many talented entrepreneurs will tell you, often people do not know what they want till you present it to them. Some needs and wants cannot be predicted by

focus groups have been useful in various campaigns is in rebranding a product, moving it from one sector of the market to another. In politics, for example, we have seen bow the female vote was courted both here and in America, with policies aimed specifically at In other words, despite all the hype, focus groups merely

tell us how to make a product more attractive; they cannot tell us how to come up with an entirely new product. One obvious result of this is the double-speak currently being used by the Government. Thus cuts are not cuts but "opportunities". However, it is clear that while focus groups were thought invaluable during the election, they are used fairly selectively; their results are themselves manipulated. Focus

groups may be used to find out how to make the Millennium tent a more desirable proposition, but were they ever used to see if we wanted the damn thing in the first place?

The whole emphasis on presentation, image, spin suggests that most of the people can be fooled most of the time. It assumes that you can give people what they don't want if only you dress it up differently. It assumes that appearances are always more important than substance. Yet it continues to neglect the fact that more and more people understand these processes. We know about soundbites and make-overs, we have grown up with them, they are not hidden from us.

The myopia of those obsessed with focus groups actually suggests to me a profound misreading of public opinion. If you listen to what people say, if you attune yourself to the culture, to our various leisure designed, repositioned in the activities, to our own underable on the market. Where standing of ourselves, then what you see and hear expressed over and over again is a desire for authenticity, for something real - whether that takes the form of contact with nature through extreme sports or a hope for those in public life to be more honest. Diana was perceived above all things to have this authenticity, a quality that can never be manufactured.

Now we have the horrible

spectacle of the Royals being forced into spontaneity by the findings of a bloody focus group. Can they not see that while they can tamper with the edges of their castles and ignore the other polls, which say that support for them is dying out, this whole ridiculous enterprise makes a mockery of what they represent in the first place.

Either the monarchy itself believes it has a divine right to rule or it doesn't. Asking its subjects what they think of it and then changing accordingly is playing at democracy. But then playing at democracy is what these focus groups are all about. In giving a few punters a severely limited range of choices, the pretence is that their influence will be great. Yet the power of the focus group is always a version of passive, reactive, consumer power. You still end up with the same old can of heans, repackaged, remarket.

What if we don't want to be mere consumers of the Royal image any more than we want to be loyal subjects? Don't believe what the polisters and the pushers tell you; all this asking you what you think is really the opposite of choice, the opposite of democracy. That's wby the Royals have finally seen the light and realised that focus groups rule, even though no one ever voted for them.

Why Ulster's Protestants are unhappy with Mo Mowlam



DAVID **MCKITTRICK** UNIONISM'S DILEMMA

Do Unionists and loyalists have a point when they complain about the conduct of the Northern Ireland peace process, maintaining that republicans are getting things all their own way? Yes they do, but only up to a point.

The real crunch for the process will come, months and possibly years from now, if and when it is seen to lay the foundations of a lasting settlement. That will also be the crunch time for Ulster Protestants. who will face the historic choice peace process needs to be as in-

of accepting or rejecting a deal that will be unprecedented in setting out a role for nationalists in the governance of Northern Ireland. In the meantime, bowever,

both Northern Ireland and its peace process are fragile and volatile entities which require constant micro-management to keep them on track and deal with recurring emergencies, such as that sparked off by the shooting of Billy Wright. At the moment most Protes-

tant spokesmen complain of imbalance, accusing the Government of favouring nationalism and republicanism. They demand more confidencebuilding measures, which is to say concessions, for the Protestant community to even the score. While such spokesmen present a united front in expressing a general unease, they are also, for the moment at least, obscuring the fact that the pro-union community is riven with confusion and divisions. There is agreement that all is not well, but no clear view

on what needs to be done. London and Dublin are firmly of the view that the

clusive as possible. They also agree that efforts need to be made to underpin both the IRA and loyalist ceasefires. Hence Gerry Adams gets to meet Tony Blair in Downing Street; hence republican prisoners in Britain are repatriated to Belfast and Dublin.

Many Protestants either approve of such developments or reluctantly accept that they are useful in maintaining the peace process and hence making a return to war less likely. But spokesmen for Unionism tend automatically to classify such moves as goals scored against their community and bence a blow to their side.

The issue of prisoners, always one of the most sensitive and potentially explosive, illustrates the divisions within Unionism. The question of early releases poses a major conundrum in that leaders, such as David Ervine, who bave paramilitary associations, want to see loyalists inmates released as quickly as possible.

David Trimble's Ulster Unionist Party, however, takes a much sterner view of releases. reflecting the more general Protestant view that those who have committed a crime should serve the time. The fact also is that there is no way of releasing loyalist prisoners without at the same time also freeing IRA This is just one of many di-

visions in Unionism, within which party support is scattered over five separate political groupings. The second largest of these, the Rev Ian Paistey's Democratic Unionists, took no less than 36 per cent of the Unionist vote in an election last year. Mr Paisley has taken his party out of the talks process and remains a voeiferous critic of the peace process and indeed any agreed settlement.

But he is not the only critic of Mr Trimble, for four of the 10 UUP MPs advocate pulling out of the talks, while others have adopted positions of studied and not particularly supportive ambivalence. Mr Trinible's clear need to guard his flank may help explain why his party is presently raising a clamour that others criticise as over-pitched and evaggerated.

But he also reflects a genuine deep-seated angest in the Protestant community. After decades of terrorism and disruption, it is being asked to reach an accommodation with its traditional enemies. It is being told it must accept a new culture of equality, and that it should accept the bona tides of such as Sinn Fein. These are controversial con-

cepts for a deeply conservative and often pessimistic community, one of whose deepest fears is that of the enemy within. One of its oldest mottos is "Not an inch." a slogan equating negotiation with weakness and warning against compromise. Although most Unionists yearn for peace, they are keenly aware that the peace pricess was not of their making. They are now being asked to sign up for an idea which began within northern nationalism, spread to Dublin and has now been es-

anti-Unionist to them but Mu Mowlam, they claim, does: hence the comparative tack of criticism of the Prime Minister. but the uninhibited condemnation of the Northern Ireland Secretary. Old-fashioned male chanvinism plays its part in this. With we much insecurity

ground, it is not altogether sur-

poused by London. Torre Blair does not appear

prising that some Unionist spokesmen should fall into the trap fashioned for them by the extreme groups and issue statements that heighten uncertainty rather than seeking to calm it. A great many Unionists, while holding reservations about the peace process, nonetheless fervently hope that it will succeed and prevent a return to war. They are, however, nervous about the price of peace, by which they mean the type of sacrifices and concessions they may be asked to make. And just as they did not con-

ceive or shape the process, they have not produced creative thinkers to define what their ultimate goal should be. All Unionists are clear enough that the link with Britain should be maintained and if possible strengthened. But they have been unable to sketch out either to themselves or the others involved the shape of the ideal society they should be striving for. The absence of that sense of vision results in a lack of direction, making it easier for the gunmen out there to generate destabilising crises which, they hope, will derail the peace

3



Peter John Brough Taylor, film editor: born Portsmouth, Hampshire 28 February 1922; married first Elizabeth Holden (three sons, one daughter; marriage dissolved), second Franca Silvi (two daughters); died Rome 17 December 1997.

The 1957 Academy Award for film editing went to the British editor Peter Taylor for The Bridge on the River Kwai, David Lean's magnificently realised CinemaScope epic of the shameful building of the Siamese wartime railway by British soldiers interned by the Japanese. It is a marvellous film which won seven Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and still stands today as one of the finest ever war films, a recognised popular classic.

Although film industry wags may assert that the editing Oscar came with the letter of engagement on a David Lean tainly true that Lean, a former precise nature of the cutting none the less. Peter Taylor had served a long apprenticeship with Lean. His Oscar for Kwai was an honest vindication of his talent, for Taylor physically edited the film into shape, working closely with Lean only on the final cut. In fact, the first assembly was made by Teddy Darvas, since Taylor was involved as supervisor on a series of British "B" features pro- securing the performance he re-

as soon as possible to fly to Ceylon to edit Kwai.

Taylor had worked his way up through the cutting rooms, including assisting Lean when he was an editor, graduating to assembly editing on such distinguished British films as Uncle Silas (1947) with Jean Simmons, the superb Academy Award-winning Laurence Olivier version of Handet (1948), and Carol Reed's brilliant and now classic The Third Man (1949), assembling for the editor Oswald Hafenrichter.

As assembly editor on The

Sound Barrier (1952), Taylor assisted its director David Lean and his editor Geoffrey Foot by sifting through all the flying material and assembling it into rolls in order to facilitate cutting: all aircraft left-to-right, all aircraft right-to-left, and aeroplane dives, and so on. Although Taylor had already edited Cairo Road (1950) and had reverted to assembly editing for financial film - and in later years it is cer- reasons during the 1950/51 slump in the industry, his work editor, would himself dictate the on The Sound Barrier proved him invaluable to Lean, and when Geoff Foot wasn't able to edit Hobson's Choice (1954) Lean offered the position of editor to Taylor.

> Taylor's contribution to Hobson's Choice was significant. On one occasion, the striking scene where Brenda da Banzie as Maggie proposes to John Mills as Willie Mossop, Lean was having particular difficulty

the sequence together in order to determine whether retakes would be required, and where. The sequence was screened for Lean on the scoring stage at Shepperton, and when the lights went up Lean laughed and told Taylor: "Never in a thousand years would I imagine the scene

could be cut that way." Taylor's

face dropped, but Lean in-

tended his comment as a com-

pliment. There were no retakes. After he edited a series of English features, including Guy Green's interesting Portrait of Alison (1955), Lean offered Taylor Summer Madness (1956), the Katharine Hepburn-starrer known in the US as Summernime, and inadvertently began Peter Taylor's lifelong love

affair with Italy. Summer Madness was the first film in Britain to be edited entirely on magnetic film (no optical sound transfers at all during editing), and the film union the ACT gave permission for the French adviser editor Jacqueline Thiedot to work alongside Taylor, for whom she ended up as assembly editor.

Taylor edited the prestigious 20th Century-Fox Cinema-Scope adventures The Man Wife (1956), a film originally begun by Roberto Rossellini, and then the call came to cut Kwai in Ceylon. Despite winning the Academy Award over the editors of Gunfight at the OK Corral, Pal Joey and Sayonara. Taylor - never pushy and with- aganza Monte Carlo or Bust!

ziger brothers, a position he left Banzie. He asked Taylor to edit solidate his Oscar success with period editing for Franco Zefa comparable feature. Instead he returned to Europe to edit Michael Powell's long-delayed Honeymoon (1959) and a slew of British features, including Guy Green's notable The Mark (1961) which secured its star Stuart Whitman an Academy nomination for Best Actor.

> By 1963 the British New Wave had beached, and Peter Taylor edited the superb This of the cine-literate director Lindsay Anderson. It is a remarkable study of working-class angst, with a cutting style like no other British feature before it. an ever-underrated achievement by Taylor, as Anderson, received all the credit as directors do. This Sporting Life remains, with The Bridge on the River Kwai, the supreme testament to Peter Taylor's craft and talent.

> Also from that period was One-Way Pendulum (1965), directed by Peter Yates from N.F. Simpson's absurdist play, allowing Taylor some bold strokes of original narrative editing. Unfortunately the film failed to find a mass audience, and has harely a cult following today.

Taylor married for a second time Franca Silvi, the sister of the Who Never Was (1956) and Sea Italian editor Roberto Silvi, settled in Rome, and edited a series of high-budget, would-be distinguished movies: Judith (1966) with Sophia Loren, the director Edward Dmytryk's Ancio (1969) with Robert Mitchum, and the all-star comedy extravduced by the American Dan-quired from a very truculent da out an agent - failed to con- (1970). More satisfactory was the

firelli, including the Taylor-Burton Taming of the Shrew (1967) and the opera films La

Transour (1982) and Otello (1986). Later work included Hugh Hudson's feature-length documentary Fongio (1971) and the made-for-cable Mussolini: The Decline and Fall of Il Duce (1985), with Boh Hoskins as the dictator and Anthony Hopkins as his son-in-law. There was lit-Sporting Life, the debut feature the doubt that Taylor's selfimposed Roman exile kept him away from contemporary mainstream production.

He was still called upon, though, and did salvage work for the director Terence Young when his editors (and one of his stars) decided not to return to Italy after their Christmas break, on a virtually unshown feature known either as Marathon or Run For Your Life. Taylor edited the complex Rome-set marathon sequences and finished the film for Young.

Well respected, and highly regarded amongst his peers. Peter Taylor featured in Film Comment magazine's 1977 listing of the world's top film editors, scrupulously checking and correcting his own credits. This distinguished editor's legacy lives on not just in his work but in a virtual cutting-room dynasty including many fellow technicians via marriage (Taylor's daughter, for example is married to Christopher Lloyd, the son of John Huston's editor Russell Lloyd), embracing many film-industry families.



Alec Guinness in The Bridge on the River Kwoi (1957), which won seven Oscars including - Tony Sloman Taylor one for film editing

Archbishop Bronislaw Dabrowski

Bronisław Wacław Dabrowski, priest: born Gradziec, Poland 2 November 1917; ordained priest 1945; consecrated bishop 1962; Secretary, Polish Bishops' Conference 1969-93; died Warsaw 25 December

Archhishop Bronislaw Dahrowski was not one to hog the limelight and appeared on first meeting to be a man of few words, reluctant to venture an opinion without first weighing Glemp. all the consequences. But be-

majority of the Polish population and making practical concessions to ensure the modus

school, Dabrowski placed a high value on loyalty, and faithfully served two primates. Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski (until his death in 1981) and his successor, Cardinal Jozef

Born in Grodziec near before being put in charge of hind the scenes he played a key Kalisz amid the German occu- an apprentices' institute in role in the Polish Catholic pation, Dahrowski entered the Warsaw. Church for nearly 25 years as Orionist Order in 1935, taking

icate balance between asserting Poland in 1939. After the Gerthe rights of a church that man and Soviet partition of at the Zdunska Wola seminary hut was soon forced to continue in secret in Nazi-occupied Warsaw. He took part in the A clergyman of the old Warsaw Uprising in 1944, hut was seized by the Germans and sent to an internment camp. Freed with the defeat of the Nazi forces in Poland, he was ordained priest in June 1945. His first task was to direct a newly established orphanage

secretary of the hishops' con- his initial philosophy course at ed Dahrowski director of the times and which he would Soviet intervention. ference with responsibility for the seminary in Zdunska Wola. secretariat department con- hold for nearly a quarter of a Dabrowski became a firm negotiating directly with the He then studied for two years cerned with religious orders. century. He was appointed a supporter of the independent

Communist authorities, a del- in Italy, before returning to The following year, in the titular archhistop in June wake of the accord between the new Communist regime represented the overwhelming Poland, he resumed his studies and the Church, he was appointed to head the Office of the Secretariat empowered to conduct negotiations with the government's Office for Religious Affairs under the supervision of the secretary of the

> In March 1962 he was consecrated assistant bishop of Warsaw, although in practice his work remained little changed. In 1969, following the death of the incumbent. the episcopate, the office to

Although Cardinal Franciszek Macharski of Krakow was the leading church representative on the joint government-church commission set up in 1980, Dahrowski was a key participant. Despite tensions caused by government restrictions on the Church and the Church's support for the opposition, commission meetings were frank and at times even jocular as the two sides huilt up a rapport. But below the surface the serious issues were never he was elected secretary of far away. The two sides discussed frankly whether certain In 1949 Wyszynski appoint- which he was re-elected four courses of action might trigger

Solidarity trade union, whose resentatives. One week later he emergence in 1980 was eventually to shatter the Soviet empire in Eastern Europe. In at least one case, Dabrowski played an effective mediating role between Solidarity and the government in bringing strikes to an end during the tense early months of 1981 and negoti-

prisoners. When General Jaruzelski declared martial law early on 13 December 1981, he sent a special emissary to the cardinal's palace in the middle of the night liaising with government rep- diplomatic skills.

was on his way to Rome to give Pope John Paul II the first direct account of events in his homeland, which even the Vatican had been unable to obtain communication with the outside

Martial law brought to the surface the tensions between ated for the release of political Glemp and Dabrowski, with the cardinal urging caution, fearing the reinstallation of a Stalinist regime that would Dahrowski believed that the to give prior warning. Glemp re- Solidarity movement could portedly heard the news with not be crushed. But neither close and friendly relations with. sadness. Dabrowski, the second allowed their differences to after media, something comto be informed, was adamant- feet their working relationship, pletely alien to Dabrowski's ly opposed, though continued a testimony to Dahrowski's style.

In 1989, Dahrowski was one: of the Church's participants in 7 the round-table negotiations hetween the Communist goverament and the opposition. which led to the first free as the government had cut elections and the election victory of the first non-Communist" government. In ill-health for some time.

as secretary of the hishops' conference in February 1993. His successor, Tadeusz Pieronek, immediately established repress the Church while a different style, taking a: high profile as the Church's spokesperson and developing

Dabrowski was finally replaced.

– Felix Corley

Eddie Chapman

Edward Chapman, wartime double agent and adventurer: born Sunderland 16 November 1914; married (one daughter); died St Albans, Hertfordshire Il December 1997.

Eddie Chapman was a safebreaker and crook, a highly successful double agent and the only Englishman to he awarded the Iron Cross. The false information he sent back to Germany about the effects of the V1 and V2 rockets probahly saved the lives of a great many Londoners.

Born in the North-East during the First World War, Chapman was well versed in the harshness of life. As a youth he ioined the Coldstream Guards. hut spent considerable periods in the "glasshouse" (the army caped prisoner turned German term for gaol) hefore being thrown out of the Army. He turned to smash-and-grah before progressing to safebreak-

ing, specialising in gelignite. safehreaking in Glasgow, and his German controller and while awaiting trial, escaped to Jersey, where he was immedi-

when the Germans invaded the Channel Islands.

Sensing a way out of his predicament, Chapman offered Germans on the UK mainland. He was extremely well trained by them, given the code-name Fritz, and in 1942 dropped by parachute near Littleport in Cambridgeshire. Equipped with wireless, pistol, the obligatory

the local Littleport police station where he had difficulty in convincing the policemen on duty that not only was he an esspy, but that he wanted to pass on secrets to MI5. But MI5 al-Bletchley Park on his activities and realised how valuable he In 1939 he was arrested for was. They allowed him to radio carry out his mission. To obtain ately imprisoned. He was about the necessary explosive mater-

to be returned to Scotland ial he returned to an old haunt, a quarry in Kent, to steal gelignite.

With his new British codename Zig-Zag and the aid of to carry out sabotage for the Jasper Maskelyne, a stage illusionist and expert in deception and camouflage, he raided the factory. He created an enormous explosion which blew off part of the roof. They then smashed holes in all the windows, covered the rest of the cyanide capsule and £1,000, he roof in camouflage netting and was detailed to blow up the De threw dehris around. German Havilland aircraft factory at aerial reconnaissance recorded Hatfield where the new Mos- a successful operation and quito fighter-bomber was being from that moment Fritz's signals about troop movements On landing he reported to and other information were

accepted by the Germans. Soon afterwards he was ordered back to Germany. MI5 found a British ship bound for Lisbon. En route it was attacked by the Luftwaffe. When they arrived in Lisbon Chapman ready had information from reported to the local Nazi representative, who gave him two pieces of "coal" which he was instructed to put aboard the ship before he finally left. This was agreed that he should appear to in fact explosive material designed to detonate when put into the furnace. Not easily de-



Chapman: a complex and genial man who made an art-form of deception

hero's welcome.

He then seemed to disappear in Europe and was later to-

ceived, Chapman handed the cated by MIS in Norway, where extensive raids on London with "coal" to the captain. On his re- he was blowing his pay and talkturn to Germany he received a ing with a very had German ac-briefed and told to report back cent. Shortly after D-Day, with the tide turning against them, the Germans planned to launch

the VI and V2. Chapman was on the effects of the rockets. Before departing he was awarded the Iron Cross. There is little

doubt that, in his own inimitable man, now a little short of mon-

they telephone Littleport, where the same desk sergeant who he had spoken to two years earlier remembered him. He was debriefed by MI5 and set up in a flat in Kensington. He reported back to Germany, giving grossly inflated figures about deaths from the V1 and V2 rockets and wherever possible redirecting them to sparsely populated areas. However, the double life and the large amount of money the Germans had paid him led Chapman back to his old cronies in the West End and nights at Smokey Joe's and the Shim Sham Club. He was indiscreet about the sources of his income and MI5, unable to control him, never

used him again. When the war ended Chap-

(Madame d'Arblay), novelist and di-

way. Chapman had created a cy, had his wartime memoirs se-: considerable hond with the rialised in France. He was Germans he worked with which charged under the Official Sehe recalls in The Eddie Chap- crets Act and fined £50. A fewman Story published after the years later, when they were due to he published in the Dropped again in Cam- News of the World the whole is, hridge, he reported to the near- sue was pulped. But Chapman. est police station, where they -was not easily put off a mission. again didn't believe a word of and managed to get his book, his story, until he insisted that The Eddie Chapman Story, published in 1953, while the film Triple Cross, which opened in 1967, was loosely based on his own life. He continued his adventurous life, getting involved in smuggling in North Africa and having to be smuggled out of Tangiers himself - and working in the colonies. In the Eighties he ran a health farm in Hertfordshire.

Perhaps the greatest accolade for this extraordinary, complex and genial man who made an art-form of deception came from Baron Stefan von Grunen," the German Chapman had reported to while an agent. Although he had been deceived throughout the war, von Grunen attended the wedding of Eddie Chapman's daughter.

DEATHS

ALLENBY: John, CBE, died on New Year's Day following a cruel illness borne with great fortitude. Adored husband of Genie, admired and loved faster of Nicole and Jillie, faster-in-law of Richard and Robert and grand-father of Giles and John. Funeral at Jopn on Thursday 8 January at Guild-ford Crematorium. Memorial Service to be announced. Donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research or to the Cats Protection League.

BERRIMAN-TAYLOR: Betty, suddenly in Durham, on 4 January, af-ter a stroke. Loved wife of Waller and widow of Gordon Berriman, mother of Jean and Christopher, stepanother of Helen and John, grandmother of Roger, Sarah, and Pelicity, Funeral service on Friday 9 January, at 11.30am, in Durham Cathedral, No flowers nlease. Donations if desired

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

to the Dean and Chapter, Durham Cathedral. CRADDUCK: Kenneth Samuel, FRICS FRIPI, of Bircher Common, near Leominster, Herefordshire, on 20 December 1997, at the age of 85 years. A much-loved father, grandiather and great-grandfather.

HARRISON: The Rev Albert Arthur (Dick), peacefully at Burwood Nurs-ine Home. Poole, aged 96 years. Re-united with Elsie, he will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Thursday 8 January at 3pm. No flowers, donations if desired for Barnardo's may be sent to Tapper Fuerral Scrvice, 173 Lower Blandford Road, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 8DH.

Broadstone, Dorset BH18 8DH.

TAYLOR: On 4 January peacefully at Haywards Heath, Charity (Lady), aged 83. Funeral at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium. Forge Wood, Balcombe, Crawley, at 1.45pm on Friday 9 January. No flowers please, donations to Nacro (National Association for Care and Rehabilitation of Offenders) for Women Prisoners Resource Centre, 0t71-582 6500 extension 229.

Announcements for Genetic BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS should be sent in writing to the Gazetto Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London EM 50L, telephoned to 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fazed to 0171-293 2010 (25-50 ten 0271-293)

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. M. Cooper and Miss L. H. Greenhalgh The engagement is announced be-tween James, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Cooper, of Colchester, Essex, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Greenhalgh, of Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Birthdays

Major Kenneth Adams, Hon Fellow, Si George's House. Windsor Castle, 78: Mr Rowan Atkinson, actor and comedian, 43: Mr Paul Azinger, golier, 38: Lord Balfour of Burfeigh, Chancellor, Stirling University, 71; Mr Roger Barron, MEP, 53; Sir Ash-

ley Bramall, former Chairman, Greater London Council, 82: Sir Robert Clark, chairman, Mirror Group Newspapers, 74: Mr John Clive, actor and writer, 60; Mr John Croft, painter and criminologist, 75; Mr Augus Deuyton, writer and broadcaster, 42; Mr Kapil Dev, crick-eter, 39; M Sacha Distet, singer, 66; General Sir Martin Farndale, director and senior defence adviser. Short Bros, 69: Sir Hugh Fish, water technologist, 75; Mr Barry John, former Welsh rugby international, 53; Mr PJ. Kavanagh, poet and novelist, 67: Mr Christopher Lewiston, chairman and chief executive. TI Group, 66: Miss Nancy Lopez-Melton, golfer, 41: Professor Lord McColl of Dulwich.

surgeon, 65: Sir Brian Moffat, chair-

man and chief executive, British

Steel, 59; Mr Martin O'Neill MP, 53; Lord Plowden, former Chairman, Atomic Energy Comminee, 9t; Mr Bill Sirs, former trade union leader. 78: Mr John Sowden, former chairman, Costain Group, St.: Miss Sylvia Synts, actress, 64: Mr Terry Venables. football manager, 55: Sir Ernest Woodroofe, former chairman of Unilever, 86; Miss Loretta Young.

Anniversaries

Births: St Joan of Arc. Maid of Orleans, 1412; Jacques-Etienne Montgolfier, balloonist, 1745; Paul-Gustave Doré, illustrator, 1833: Alexander Nikolavevich Scriabin. composer. 1872: Khalil Gibran. writer, 1883. Deaths: Farmy Burney

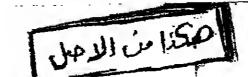
arist, 1840; Louis Braille, deviser of blind alphabet, 1852; Theodore Rossevelt, 26th US President, 1919; Archibald Joseph Croain, novelist, 1981; Rudolf Hametovich Nureyev, dancer, 1993. On this day: Samuel Morse gave the first public demonstration of his electric relegraph, 1838; the Allies began to evacuate Gallipoli, 19to; the first opera was broadcast in Britain. The Magic Fluic 1923; the new Sadler's Wells Theatre opened in London, 1931; the Battle of the Bulge ended, 1945. Today is the Epiphany (Feast of the Three Kings), Twelfth Night, Old Christmas Day and the Feast Day of St Erminold, St Guarinus or Guerin of Sion, St John de Ribera, St Raphaela

Lectures

National Gallery: Richard Verdi. "New Appearances (1): Van Dyck, François Langlois", tpm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Patricia Baker, "Medieval English Tiles", 2.30pm.

British Museum: Sam Moorhead fourth-century opulence", 1.15pm. National Portrait Gallery: John Cooper, "Henry VIII and Catherine, Parr", 1.10pm.

Changing of the Guard --The Household Cavalry Mounted Res ment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Hum



South Korea close to deal with bankers as Asian currencies tumble further

South Korea was increasingly confident last night that urgent talks with the world's leading bankers would produce an agreement to ease its multi-billion dollar foreign debt crisis. im Levi in London looks at the latest attempts to find a solution while Stephen Vines in Hong Kong watched as the Asian currencies continued to tumble.

A Korean government official Chung In Young said discussions with US bankers in New York, including a proposal to convert some of its commercial loans into sovereign debt, were short-term loans outstanding at proving "positive". London the end of June. Britain's exbanking sources were also confident that the international financial community would agree its own bail-out plan for South Korea hy tomorrow, Korea's foreign creditor banks are believed to have up to \$100bn of months or less. HSBC, acting as short-term loans outstanding to the country's banks and industrial companies. The bulk of those loans are due for repayment this year.

The international banks are in urgent meetings with Korean officials in New York in a hid to stitch together an agreement aimed at rescheduling this debt. This is likely to include swapping \$15hn of the commercial debt into sovereign debt. The creditor banks are themselves ernment bonds on cooditioo under pressure from central that the Korean government itbankers and the International self bought out around \$7bn or Monetary Fund (IMF) to do a

If they fail to reach agreement by tomorrow a loan of

leading industrial nations will not be made. That loan is part of a \$57bn IMF rescue package put together by its officials in November.

US Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin applied a measure of political pressure saying America was "enormously concerned" about the financial crisis in South Korea.

"We are enormously concerned about South Korea and the people of South Korea. and we want to enable South Korea to return to a position of financial stability." he said

One key to achieving that goal would he to put reforms in place that would address the issue that gave rise to the problems in the first place, he said.

Japanese banks have the biggest exposure to Korean borrowers with \$24.3bn of posure is relatively small. According to the Bank of England, loans to Korean companies at the end of June last year totalled \$6.1bn of which about \$4bn was due for repayment within six coordinator in the oegotiations on behalf of British banks, is believed to be optimistic about the outcome.

Parallel discussions are taking place over Korea's longerterm debt problems to foreign banks. Initially, the focal point for these talks appears to have been a controversial scheme floated last week by JP Morgan. it proposed Korea's bank creditors buy \$15bn of Korean gov-\$8hn-worth of debt the Korean banks owe foreign banks.

But many banks felt that such a plan to increase the



Money worries: Investors queue to withdraw their assets at the failed Daehan Investment Banking Corp in Seoul yesterday.

be welcome as it would send the wrong signals to the IMF, which had already agreed to lend it huge sums. A new plan to deal with this longer-term deht issue is under discussion but no details have been released. One suggestion is that the new plan will involve a massive new Ko-

to the deht problem would not. The package might also include the outright sale of control of certain Korean banks to overseas interests. Last week the Korean government announced plans to sell off two of its that his would he seeking to tially," he said "hut shortfalls weaker banks, SeoulBank and Korea First Bank.

Meanwhile. Asian markets \$8hn promised by the G-7 Korean government's exposure rean government debt issue, year trading with currencies get surplus equivalent to I per

plunging to new lows and the fo- cent of its gross domestic prodcus of concern to Thailand and Indonesia.

In Thailand, Prime Minister renegotiate the terms of the

The IMF had demanded began their first full week of new that Thailand produce a hud-

uct in the 1997/98 fiscal year, Mr Chuan said that it was unlikely this target could he met. "We Chuan Leckpai said yesterday have cut spending substanin revenue will be as high as \$17.2hn hail-out with the IMF. 100bn baht (£1.3bn), which makes it important to adjust the

In Indonesia, the local cur-

Ofgas objects to Centrica sale of meter division

Centrica, owner of the British Gas supply business, is facing action by Ofgas, the industry watchdog, over moves to sell its division responsible for a million pre-payment meter customers to the company that manufactures the meters. As Chris Godsmark,

Business Correspondent, reports, the move has already aroused concern from the Gas Consumers Council.

British Gas is selling the Central Quantum Office, based in Newcastle, to Landis & Gyr, the Swiss group which is one of the world's leading suppliers of utility meters and payphone systems. The two companies are expected to sign the deal, for an undisclosed sum, in the next two weeks.

A British Gas spokesman last night confirmed that a sale was imminent. "We've been discussing outsourcing Quantum for some time and hope a deal can be struck in the near

The Quantum Office, which employs 150 people, administers about a million gas meters in some of the UK's poorest households, including those using coins or electronic smart cards. Landis & Gyr already manurency fell almost 10 per cent yesfactures the meters for British terday to a record law of 6,700 Gas, which has a monopoly over against the dollar ahead of tothe pre-payment system.

It emerged yesterday that under British Gas's existing licence Ofgas would no longer be able to control Quantum's charges to gas suppliers after the sale, which could hit pre-payment consumers. Ofgas has proposed toughening British Gas's operating liceoce to prevent an outside hidder from raising charges and has invited views from rival suppliers.

The Gas Consumers Council said it was concerned that Landis & Gyr could try to raise charges to fund investment in Quantum, which has been criticised as being outdated and expensive to run. Sue Slipman, the GCC's director, said: "Any sale of Quantum without sorting out its problems first would mean you end up with a monopoly you couldn't control. We are very worried about that."

The sale comes at a sensitive time in the gas industry, with Ofgas this week expected to Savers with 25-year policies, rule on national price cuts long bull-run, can expect unplanned by British Gas which could see its pre-payment customers enjoy much lower rea month to a 25-year GA Life ductions than those paying by direct dehit. British Gas is planceive a payout of £120,784 this ning to knock 9 per cent off hills year, up from £114,554 if he had from 12 January, but has frozen started a year earlier. This is the pre-payment charges while Ofsame as an interest rate of 14.2 gas reviews the system.

STOCK MARKETS

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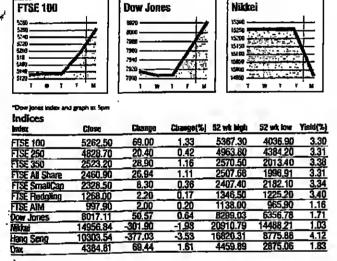
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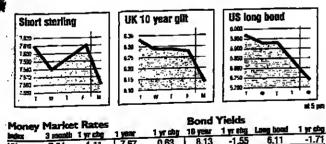
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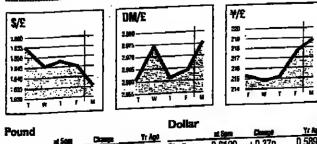
INTEREST RATES



MAIN PRICE CHANGES

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Pentland	116.50	7.00	6.39	Ashtead Group	949	-35	-3.56
Colt Telecom	648.50	31,50		Rattrack GRP	91	-3	-3.19
Prudential Corp	800.00	37,00	4.85	Lonrito	31	-5	Q. 13

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Life assurance bonuses cut despite rising markets

Millions of savers who own with-profits savings plans will suffer a sharp cut in annual bonuses this year - even though investments grew in 1997 by more than 15 per cent. As Andrew Verity reports, actuaries foresee even smaller payouts in years to

GA Life, one of the country's top ten life insurers, yesterday announced it was reducing its annual bonus to with-profits savers by 0.5 per cent - despite growth in savers' funds of more

The bonus declarations will dismay millions of savers who had hoped to cash in on a bonanza year for the equity markets. In 1997, GA's with-profits vield on long-term gilts. fund saw investment growth of 20 per cent. Yet pension savers with GA will only be promised

Compediors of GA – which clare even lower bonuses. Withprofits pension savers with Norwich Union will get a return this year of just 6.75 per cent compared to 7.5 per cent last year.

GA said it could no longer pay such high levels of annual bonus when markets were all anticipating much lower growth

Company actuaries, who set the annual bonuses paid to policcholders, measure the amount they can guarantee against the

Because these plunged last year to a low of 6.25 per cent. not seen since the 1970s, actua bonus of 8 per cent for the - aries no longer feel confident enough to guarantee high annual bonuses every year, tncan keep up bonuses because of stead, the actuaries are its giant reserves- are likely to de- promising more in maturity payouts - which are not guar-

> According to the Institute of Actuaries, life offices have only been able to guarantee high annual bonuses because of unusually high investment growth right back to 1974, when stockmarkets hit their nadir in the midst of the oil price shock.

rant sector as it fied un the ac-

Bass plans a rapid expansion

new sites across the country.

vesterday. It is already in ad-

in Edinburgh and Bath.

locations.

Browns restaurants acquisition

The low yield on gilts reflects some very high inflation. Dura belief, shared by actuaries, that as long as inflation stays low, investment returns from stocks and shares can be expected to do the same.

Nick Dumbreck, a leading figure at the Institute of Actu-

"I think it is absolutely right that companies should be reducing bonuses at this time. It doesn't mean savers are getting less overall - they are just gerting less now."

He added that lower inflation would mean their savings would be worth more in the long.

Peter Nowell, chairman of the Institute's life board, added: "In the past we had some very

high investments returns - and

Vickers and Rolls-Royce

per cent a year.

day's budget. The rupiah has lost

more than 60 per cent of its ex-

change value since July. Some of

the fall has been caused by lo-

cal investors who are worried

that the country will not be able

to meet its short-term debt com-

ing the 1990s, inflation has he-

come lower so the target for

investment growth has become

offices tried to keep their annual

bonuses right up, which might

have an impact on their finan-

cial strength. Annual bonuses

ought to be below gilt yields."

who have benefited from the

precedented payouts this year.

A man who started paying £50

policy, maturing now, would re-

"My concern would be if life

lower as well.

mitments, triggering defaults.

Viekers was at loggerheads last The chain came to London company had the power to veto the sale of the Rolls-Royce luxury car husiness to a foreign huyer.

> drawn up after the two halves of Rolls-Royce were split up, the consent of the aero-engine company is required if the car marque is transferred to a non-British owner.

it had received clear legal advice that the change of control tion for Rolls taking place by provisions in the 1973 agreement were unenforcable under European Uoion law. A has a joint aero-engine comspokesman added that any altempt by the aero-engine company to exercise its veto would he a hreach of article 85 of the Treaty of Rome governing restrictions on competition.

night with Rotts-Royce over ers advisers Lazards prepared whether the aero-engine to send out a memorandum of

disagree over sale veto

Under a 1973 agreemeot

Vickers said last night that

But a spokesman for the acro-engine company expressed surprise at Vickers' statement. He added that its Analysts believe Bass is sitting legal advice was that the pro-ner since it has a close working on a war chest of more than visions of the agreement were £2hn and is targeting large ho- enforceable and would be enforced if it was thought neces-- Andrew Yates sary to do so.

The dispute came as Vicksale to interested parties. The document is heing sent this week to six potential hidders -BMW, Daimler-Benz and Volkswagen of Germany, Chrysler of the US, the Japanese car maker Toyota and a consortium of wealthy Rolls-Royce owners led by the Formula One chief

Bernie Ecclestone. Vickers executives helieve that the aero-engine company could attempt to stop a full auctrying to deliver it into the hands of BMW with which it

This could affect the price achieved since there are suggestioos that BMW is only prepared to pay £250m compared with the £400m-£500m that

Vickers is hoping to raise. Despite the legal squabble between the two sides, BMW is prohably still the front-runrelationship with Rolls and is supplying the engine for its next generation of tuxury models.

- Michael Horrison

than 20 per cent. Seagram seeks buyers for Bass moves upmarket with

its off-licence chain, back on the market again.

Olddbins chain again

The group is understood to small. have approached several potential buyers in the off-licence business, according to informed

However its initial approaches have heen rehuffed and it may find it difficult to find a huyer, raising the possibility of an eventual maoagement

buy out Oddbins was put up for sale last spring with a price tag of up to £50m. Tesco and Greenalis were in the frame to buy the husiness hack hut halked at the cost after having a closer look at the deal.

The chain was eventually taken off the market. However Seagram is still keen to offload the business and has made it clear it is opeo to offers.

The price tag demanded is believed to have fallen to £35m. although some City observers helieve that it may fail to fetch that much and could go for nearer £25m. Analysts believe

Seagram, the Canadian drinks that buyers have been put off by and entertainment giant, is fact that Oddbins sites are helieved to have put Oddbins, mainly leasehold which attract relatively high rents. Some of its sites are also considered too

Founded in 1963, Oddbins now has 238 stores in the UK. industry about the sale the Its sites are concentrated in around London and the Southeast, although they stretch from Inverness to Truro and it recently opened two shops in Duhlin. But it is a minnow compared with Thresher and Victoria Wine.

The disposal would herald the latest step in the rationalisation of an industry that has been battered by intense competition from the supermarkets. which have managed to undercut off-licences and win market

The flood of cheap duty-free imports from the Continent has also hit sales. Greenalls sold its Cellars off-licence husiness last year and sources suggest Whithread is looking to sell the Thresher chain. A spokeswoman for Seagram declined to comment on the fate of

- Andrew Yotes years later in Oxford, Restan-

Tim Clarke, chief executive of Bass Taverns, said: "Browns" management team together with Bass Taverns' resources gives its opportunities to further rtevelop this highly regarded

Mr Mogford opened the

first Browns in The Lanes in Brighton in 1973 at the age of 23 The second came three

rants in Cambridge and Bristol Bass yesterday made its first move into the unmarket restaufollowed.

three years ago and in August quisition of Browns, the chain 1996 its biggest restaurant so far that is best known for its grand opened its doors at St Martin's Lane near Trafalgar Square with 350 seats, private rooms of the Browns chain, opening senting another 250 and a cockafter completing its purchase tail bar. The deal marks the latest

attempt by the brewing indusvanced discussions on two sites try to cash in on the huge ex-The linancial details of the pansion of the eating out market, which is forecast to condeal have not been disclosed but tinue to grow rapidly over the it is understood the final figure agreed on is around £35m and next few years. So far Bass Tavwill make Jeremy Mogford, the erns has been restricted to developing puh chains with group's lounder, a restaurant extensive food menus such as millionaire many times over. Mr. All Bar Onc. Mogford is staying on as a nonexecutive director of Browns to The deal is Bass's first ac-

auisition since completing a preside over its expansion plans. huge disposal programme which involved the sale of its Gala bingo division, its tenanted pub estate and most recentiv the Coral betting chain. This period of frenctic cor-

purate activity is far from over. tel groups in the Far East.

UK shares will suffer Asian flu

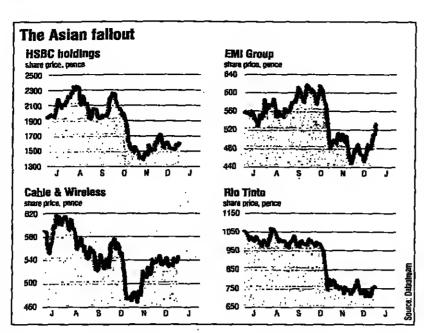
Which British companies have the most to lose from the Asian crisis? Given that Far Eastern markets first began to wobble in the summer, investors may think that this question is about six months too late. Certainly, shareholders in companies as diverse as HSBC and Rio Tinto have already seen the former Asian tigers chew more than a fifth off the value of their

But that doesn't mean the issue won't rumble on. Much as with the strong pound last year, the lingering effects of the crisis look set to become one of the big investment themes of 1998. Indeed. Asian turmoil looks set to take the place of factors such as Diana's death, the strength of sterling, and the El Nino weather system as the leading excuse for profit warnings.

Much depends on what happens to Asian markets over the coming year. The various rescue packages on offer may still manage to avert economic collapse, but the crisis could also deepen. Hong Kong abandoning its currency peg to the dollar would be particularly had news for companies with large investments in the former colony. Either way, economic growth in the Far East is going to be a lot slower than expected 12 months ago. And that has far-reaching implications.

The companies with large direct exposure to Asia are well known. HSBC and Standard Chartered will suffer slower asset growth, and will also have to sharply increase bad loan provisions. Cable & Wireless, through HongKong Telecom. will also see less growth than it had previously expected. Inchcape, the car importer and bottling group, derives almost half of its profits from the region. Not surprisingly, share price falls for these

groups have been dramatic. Other, more dynamic effects are less easy to quantify. A company may only derive a small proportion of its profits from the Far East, But if those profits have been growing very quickly, the slowdown there could have a disproportionate effect on a company's overall profit growth. This effect is particularly pronounced in the



als group, which has seen its share price fall by a quarter in the past six months. Although its sales are spread across the world, most of its growth is in Asia.

Companies in commodity industries are particularly vulnerable, even if they do not have direct exposure to the region, because over-supply in the Far East will prompt a price slump which could quickly spreads around the globe. That puts British Steel, ICI (through its remaining hulk chemical interests) and paper makers such as Rexam on the danger list.

Firms selling large capital goods to Asian countries are clear casualties of the crisis, especially if the projects depend on government cash. Construction orders could also dry up, and existing projects could he shelved. So watch out for groups like GEC, which through its (soon to be demerged) GEC-Alsthom joint venture is involved in large power engineering projects in the region.

Consumer goods are more complicated. Shares in luxury brands such as Gucci have taken a pasting as investors anticipate that the crisis will hit Asia's affluent and fashion-conscious consumers' pockets. Although Britain is short of prestigious fashion brands, other goods will suffer. Music groups EMI and Polygram, which have benefited from booming CD sales in case of Rio Tinto, the world's largest met- Asia, have already seen a slowdown.

By contrast, Unilever claims that crisis has yet to hit sales in the region. The consumer goods giant has invested heavily to achieve its target of making 50 per cent of its sales from emerging markets early in the next century. However, if Asian consumers do stop huying ice cream bars and washing powder, Unilever will be a hig casualty.

The most curious case, perhaps, is that of British manufacturers. With a few exceptions, they have escaped the fallout by virtue of their relatively low exposure to the region. Some, like Siebe, even reckon local currency devaluations will make acquisition targets more affordable.

The danger, however, is that cheaper currencies give Asian exporters a valuable competitive boost in their quest to expand their European markets. This effect may be even more pronounced if demand in the Far East falls away, releasing unsold products into Western markets. Although the strong pound has already done a lot of damage to engineering share prices, a wall of cheap Asian imports flowing into

Europe could dash any hopes of recovery. So although Asia will fade from the headlines over the coming year, that doesn't mean the full effect of the crisis has been felt. Long after the worst of the turmoil is over, UK share prices will still be coming down with Asian flu.

Slug & Lettuce entrepreneur plans float for his latest pub venture

Hugh "Sooty" Corbett has become a legend in the pub business by building up the Slug & Lettuce and Harvey Floorbangers chains and selling them off for a handsome profit to larger drinks groups. Andrew Yates discovers he is at it again with grand plans to make his new Tup Inns a household

Hugh Corbett is poised to announce the acquisition of four pubs in London, which will more than double the size of his fledgling Tup Inns chain. The in 1996.

deal is part of Mr Corbett's plans to float the new group on the AIM market within the next 18 months.

The Tup chain is the latest brain child of Mr Corbett, who bought his first pub, the King's Arms in Chipping Camden, Gloucestershire, almost 30 years ago and since then has become one of the most successful puh entrepreneurs in the country. He founded Slug & Lettuce

in 1984 and became a pub millionaire the first time over when the first seven sites were sold to Grosvenor Inns six years later for £4.36m.

Next came Harvey Floorhangers, a chain of rowdy pubs and popular live music vennes, which were sold to Regent Inns

Mr Corbett has now. pumped some of the millions he made from those sales into his new venture.

The Tup Inns have taken elements from both of Mr Corbett's previous endeavours. The wooden floors and seats from the Harvey Floorbangers chain are still there but the new sites will concentrate on offering a wide range of food and premi-

They will also be adorned with the group's sign, a randy sheep, the name Tups being taken from the term used to describe rams which get frisky

The first Tup Inn opened in Fulham Road in March 1996. Central London sites in Marylebone and Gresham Street followed.

Up to now the focus has been buying pnbs within the M25 and the new sites will be located in south-west and north-east London. However, Mr Corbett is looking to expand the chain around the country.

Mr Corbett has just anpointed Paul McKinley, who was instrumental in growing the Harvey Floorbangers chain, as Tup Inns area manager to help oversee the group's expansion.

The final details of the deal are still being thrashed out and should be announced later this

 $4.72\,17$

Mr Corbett hopes to buy another three pubs by the end of the year, taking the chain to 10, before floating on the stock

Vodafone claims victory over rival mobile operators in race for new subscribers

Vodafone yesterday claimed leadership over its three rival mobile phone networks after a record pre-Christmas race to sign up

But Orange, which saw its share of market growth slip back, warned that other operators had been drawn into a "dangerous numbers game" to boost their figures. Chris Godsmark, Business Correspondent, reports

726,000 net new subscribers - the difference between those joining and those leaving the networks -between October and December, easily beating the previous record 574,000 quarterly in-

crease achieved two years ago. The combination of aggressive price cuts and a £15m high street store rebranding programme helped Vodafone to add 241,000 net new customers, the network's best quarter since it began operations in 1985. Vodafone said its chain of 250 stores accounted for 54,000 new

subscribers in December alone. One2One, the network owned by Cable & Wireless and US West, continued its recent

The four mobile groups added 206,000 net new subscribers in the final quarter, 142 per cent above the same period in 1996. Tim Samples, One2Oue's managing director, said the group was launching a £3.2m post-Christmas advertising campaign, emphasising that its network now covered 95 per

cent of the UK population. "One2One was known as the M25 network. It will take time to erase that image," he said.

The other two networks, Cellnet and Orange, trailed the two market leaders, adding 149,000 and 130,000 net new subscribers. However, Orange claimed the price cuts by Vodafone and One2One could have attracted lower-spending strong performance with customers.

Graham Howe, Orange's finance director, added that Vodafone's figures were inflated by the group's pay-as-you-go service, which uses older analogue network. Some 68,000 of Vodafone's net new subscribers took up the service, compared to 15,000 who bought Orange's

digital pre-payment service. But Terry Barwick, Vodafone's corporate affairs director, said that, even excluding the pre-payment service, the network had added 173,000 digital customers.

Separately yesterday Voda-fone confirmed a £267m deal to buy 26.5 per cent of Libertel, the Dutch mobile operator, taking its stake in the group to a controlling 61.5 per cent.

THE INDEPENDENT

£10 Conran lunch

Everyday in any one of six Conran restaurants

The Independent and Independent on Sunday in association with Terence Conran are delighted to offer readers the opportunity to enjoy lunch or early evening supper at six of London's top restaurants anyday throughout January and February for £10

From Monday January 5th until Saturday February 28th, 6 Conran Restaurants are exclusively offering readers of The Independent and Independent on Sunday a two course lunch or early evening supper for just £10. In addition, readers can take advantage of further special offers throughout the evening at a number of the restaurants, details of which we shall publish over the course of the promotion.

How to Book

To participate in the offer simply collect one token (tokens will be printed every day until Saturday February 28th) and then telephone the restaurant of your choice quoting the independent offer. On your arrival at the restaurant you must present your token in order to qualify for the offer. Each token is valid for a complete table booking. The tokens will be valid for one week only, and will be dated. accordingly. To continue to participate in the offer, simply collect a token from the week in which you wish to dine. Pre-booking is essential and all bookings are subject to availability.

A special discount is available on selected items in the Bluebird and Le Pont de la Tour shops on presentation of the token.

Terence Conran, widely recognised as the UK's leading restaurateur has played a significant role in changing the way we eat out. He has created | | unique restaurants, and this year will open two more in London and one in

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Bluebird is an Epicurean experience for lovers of food and drink: a large restaurant and bar, together with a food market, thef shop, traiteur, cafe and luxurious dining club. Since opening last year, it has become a popular choice for those who want to enjoy good food and wine in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. The menu combines the best classic and contemporary flavours and techniques, and readers can enjoy dishes from the grill, rotisserie and wood-fired oven. Lunch 12pm-3pm, Early evening supper 6pm - 7pm.

Blue Print Café, The Design Museum, 28 Shad Thames, London, SEI 2YE. 0171 378 7031

Blue Print Café is a favourite destination for many in the city. Admired for its spectacular view, good food and relaxed atmosphere, the restaurant looks out over the Thames and Tower Bridge. Blue Print's food is simple and light reflecting influences from around the globe and the menu changes frequently to take advantage of seasonal produce. New for 1998, Blue Print Café have introduced a set lunch menu which Independent readers can try at the special price of £10 for two courses. Also available early evening is a selection of great Spanish food and rustic wine for £10. Lunch 12noon - 3pm, Early evening supper 6pm - 7pm.*

Le Pont de la Tour Bar & Grilk 36d Shad Thames, London, SEI 2YE. 0171 403 8403

The centreplece of the Butler's Wharf Gastrodrome, La Pont de la Tour overlooks the River Thames and is situated by one of the most famous bridges in the world - it's namesake, Tower Bridge. The entire complex includes an elegant restaurant, lively bar & grill and series of splendid shops. At the Bar & Grill, the meau is a mix of regional French, Irish, British and Italian dishes in simple, generous style. For Independent readers the chef has created a new set menu (£10 for two courses or £13.50 for three courses) full of classic Bar & Grill dishes. Lunch 12pm-3pm, Early evening supper 6pm -7pm.

Mezzo: 100 Wardour Street, London, WIV 3LE 0171 314 4000.

"When we opened Mezzo in September 199S, we wanted to make people feel good, to add to the quality of life in London and to bring something completely different to Soho," says Terence Conran. Described as the largest restaurant in Europe, Mezzo is in fact a collection of complementary, food related activities all gathered together under one enormous roof: Soho's only bakery, a patisserie, cafe and four bars, as well as two different restaurants - Mezzo and Mezzonine. Mezzo is reached by an impressive staircase which winds down through a dramatic double height space where the kitchens create a spectacular stage. The food is a fusion of east meets west, northern and southern hemispheres, where chef John Torode shows his passion for mixing ingredients with flair and innovation. Lunch 12pm - 3pm, Early evening supper 6pm-7pm.

Quaglino's, 16 Bury Street, St James's, London, SWIY 6AL 0171 930 6767

Celebrating it's fifth birthday on February 14th this year, Quaglino's has been described as "......the talk and taste of London, a place so polished and swanky it could only have come from Terence Conran." Vogue Entertaining Guide June/July 1993. Despite opening in the depths of the recession, this glamorous restaurant has been one of London's most successful establishments. Inspired by the great brassleries of Paris, the menu is predominantly a mix of British, French and Italian dishes.

Lunch 12pm-3pm, Early evening supper 5.30pm-6.30pm.

Zinc Bar & Grill, 21 Heddon Street, just off Regent Street, London, WIR 7LF. Tel 0171 25S 8899

Zinc Bar & Grill is a lively and informal restaurant and bar, in the heart of London's West End. Just sec-Zinc bar & Gril is a livery and informal restaurant and par, in the neart or London's west and. Just seconds away from the hustle and bustle of Regent Street, Zinc Bar & Grill provides an easis from the West End frenzy, a place to meet friends for a quick drink, a light lunch or a relaxed dinner. The menu is simple and reasonably priced with the majority of dishes cooked on the grill and rotisserie, on view to restaurant customers. Exclusively at Zinc, readers will be able to enjoy three courses for just £10 be-

Terms and conditions: To participate in the offer simply telephone the restaurant of your choice direct (from those listed above) to make your table reservation, identifying yourself as an Independent diner. On arrival at the restaurant you should present your correctly dated token to qualify for the promotion. Pre-booking is essential and all bookings are subject to availability. Diners will not be able to participate in the promotion if they have not made a prior reservation. The offer entitlet the independent diner and all members of their booking to a two course lunch or early evening supper (pre 7pm) at Mezzo, Bluebird, Le Pont de iz Tour Bar & Grill, Quaglino's, Blue Print Café or Zinc Bar & Grill for £10, Price includes one side order against a specially prepared menu. The discount at the Bluebird / Le Pont de iz Tour shops applies to selected purchases in store. The menus may change from time to time durineders of the promotion. The cost of the meal includes VAT and excludes drinks, coffee/tea. A discretionary service charge of 12.5% will be added to each bill. The offer is exclusive to independent Promoter: The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London, £14 5AP.

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OUTLOOK

 $\operatorname{Rig}(v) \subseteq \{1,\dots,n\} \xrightarrow{\operatorname{loc}(v)}$ EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE KOREAN CRISIS. LABOUR'S NEW DEAL AND JAGUAR'S DECISION TO OPT FOR MERSEYSIDE

ON INTERNATIONAL

Why there can be no pain-free salvage for Korea

One of the ironies of the economic crisis that engulfed Britain in the mid-1970s is that we never had to draw on a penny of the International Monetary Fund aid so painfully extracted to help tide us over our difficulties. The mere fact that the IMF was prepared to lend the money helped restore confidence and ease the liquidity crisis. This, of course, is how IMF support is supposed to work. Unfortunately, it hasn't turned out that way with South Korea. Record breaking though the IMF and other international aid for Korea is, it still looks insufficient. As a result and in contrast to what happened with Britain, it has already been drawn on, payments have had to be accelerated and unless creditor banks can agree collectively to roll over their debt, it will soon run out.

Hence the sudden flurry of meetings among international bankers and policymakers and the renewed feeling of crisis about the Far East as the new year gets under way. The immediate problem is that the amount of debt owed by Korean banks and corporations that matures over the next six months easily outstrips the \$60bn of support agreed by the international community. The Koreans have been borrowing short and lending long. If there was no crisis, this short term deht might have been rolled over almost automatically and everything would have continued as normal.

But things are not normal. What has caused and deepened the South Korean problem is that bankers have not been prepared to do this. They have called in their loans in ever growing quantities with the

result that what began as a banking crisis has now become a sovereign one too. The country is quite literally running out of foreign currency reserves as corporations and banks attempt to convert their unwanted Korean wons into dollars to satisfy the international bankers. A string of corporate and banking insolvencies threatens to turn in this way into a national insolvency.

As a result, proposals from JP Morgan and other investment bankers to solve the crisis by issuing Korean sovereign debt against the banking loans, look more than a little implausible. Very few investors would be prepared to take on Korean sovereign debt at present except on terms the Korean government would find too onerous to accept. Either that or there would bave to be some kind of World Bank or IMF guarantee of the coupon, at which point the bonds would become not Korean debt, but in effect US debt. It is not clear the US tax payer would be up for

There is, in any case, a philosophical argument against this approach. The IMF would not be keen to see the Korean government guarantee all, or even part, of the country's foreign debt, for this would merely encourage such bad lending to continue. There might eventually come a time. after confidence has been restored and the immediate liquidity crisis has eased, when it would be possible to refinance these dehts with government-hacked bonds, hut this would very much be for the post-

operative stage of recovery. As in most insolvencies, bankers for the

time being have little option but to agree collectively to roll over their debts and hope the country eventually manages to work out its bad loans. Unfortunately, the prognosis at this stage cannot be one of total recovery. JP Morgan, Goldman Sachs and the host of other Wall Street investment banks trying to get a feeearning foot in the door all claim to be able to deliver a pain-free way out of the crisis. That's there job.

Lamentahly, it is hard to see how this can be the case. There's no such thing as a free salvage. One way or another, international banks with an exposure to Korea are going to end up taking a hit and South Korea's future ability to borrow will be correspondingly harmed. That's the way of the capital markets. No amount of fancy footwork from Wall Street is going to

A better deal in **London than Paris**

This is a real tale of two cities. In France, following more than a week of Gallic mini-riots and occupations, the Socialist government yesterday introduced the obligatory 35-hour week as the centrepiece of its effort to create nearly a million new jobs, even though this will increase the

national wage hill by about 2.5 per cent. Meanwhile, on this side of the Channel, the Government launched its extended New Deal, which will subsidise employers

who take on unemployed workers and cut

welfare to individuals who refuse to take up a job opportunity. It would be hard to devise a contrast that illuminated more clearly the difference in national economic philosophy.

The irony is that the ups and downs of the husiness cycle will favour the French economy this year, helping to chip away at the 12.5 per cent jobless rate, while the slowdown in the UK will perhaps put a halt to the decline in unemployment even as the New Deal gets into full swing. Neither trend is attributable to the government packages. In each case these are just supply-side measures which will only show results in terms of the number of people in work over the course of several years.

But the best indicator of the supplyside success of the contrasting Anglo-Saxon and Gallic approaches will be corporate profitability and investment. The UK's New Deal will, if only in a small way, improve the quality and reduce the cost of available labour. The French package will do the opposite, squeezing corporate profit margins. It is easy to see wby the British approach will ultimately create a great deal more jobs.

The value of aid in Merseyside

The last time anyone tried to build a prestige car on Merseyside it ended in tears with the closure of British Leyland's TR7 factory in Speke. But that was two

decades ago, since when much water and a lot more Spanish practices have passed under the bridge. Today Jaguar will register its vote of confidence in the Northwest by announcing that its new small car, the X400, is to be built at the Ford Hale-

wood plant. Jaguar is owned by Ford, which has separately decided Halewood is not up to building something as bog standard as the new Escort. Fortunately, it has no such qualms when it comes to building cars to compete with the likes of the BMW 3-series, the Audi A4 and the Mercedes

C-class models. To be fair to Halewood, standards of quality, reliability and efficiency have been transformed since the days when Red Robbo ruled the roost over at BL. But that is not the whole story. Its productivity still lags a long way behind that of the two Ford-owned American plants which were competing for the investment. Halewood is also further away from its markets than the German plant that was also in the running, since the new baby Jag, unlike existing models, will be aimed squarely at the European market.

What Halewood also has going for it, however, is assisted area status. That translates into an aid package worth somewhere in the region of £50m out of a total investment of £400m. The 4,000 jobs the baby Jag will preserve are welcome, but what a pity that Halewood had to rely on a leg-up from the taxpayer to secure the investment and couldn't have done it on

Signs of slowdown fail to dampen fears of further interest rate rises

.The economy is showing every sign of cooling off, according to the latest indicators on industry and housing. But the financial markets are still not confident the slowdown will be fast enough to stop interest rates rising again. This month's signals will come in for extra-close scrutiny, says Diane Coyle, Economics Editor.

The first survey to take the pulse of manufacturing industry in December revealed a mixed state of health, with a pick-up in output and signs of bottlenecks combined with a slowdown in growth of new orders to the lowest since May

The manufacturing expansion entered its 19th successive month, according to the overall activity index reported by the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply. But it declined to 52.9 from 53.7 in November, pointing to slower growth.

"It isn't the conclusive signal either one way or the other that the markets would like. It is not very robust but neither does it give any support for the theory the economy is heading for Sachs.

The £350m flotation of

Monsoon, the women's

clothing retailer, could

be heading for stormy

weather as investors

fight shy of a new issue

in the unsettled retail

sector. Nigel Cope, City

Correspondent, asks

whether it will be second

Fund managers have reacted

coolly to the float's prospects.

saying the company will strug-

gle to secure the premium pric-

ing its advisers are aiming for.

They say Monsoon's abandon-

will count against it, as will the

recent profits warning from

Oasis Stores and downbeat

ing from other retailers. Inves-

tors will be looking for further

clues from Burton's Christmas

'messages about Christmas trad-

ment of its float 18 months ago

time lucky for founder

Peter Simon.

recession," said Kevin Gar-

of the housing market recovery. time for any further rate rise. It is predicting a 5 per cent price increase this year.

measure and the alternative from Nationwide, the building society, has grown steadily wider during recent months, with the latter reporting the annual increase in house prices at 12.6 per cent in December. However, both lenders agree that the housing market has weakened.

Most commentators likewise agree that the pace of growth in the economy as a whole is on the verge of a slowdown. But even after yesterday's purchasing managers' survey. the financial futures market still indicated that the Bank of England is expected to raise interest rates by another quarter point notch to 7.5 per cent

before the end of March. "A lot of things could happen in January that make it premature to say interest rates are already at their peak," said David Walton at Goldman

But fund managers contacted

vesterday expressed concerns.

quite a number of disagreeable

floats and there could be a buy-

er's strike developing. Because

the float was pulled before you

lend to be naturally suspicious."

Monsoon's prospects might be

dented by the disastrous per-

formance at Limelight, the

kitchens and bedrooms group,

where the company's founder

sold a significant stake in the

business. Monsoon is 96 per

cent owned by its founder Peter

Simon. He will net £86m from

mented. "We will be looking at

it very closely. I think it will be

quite a difficult one to get

away. Another said: "It will

have a problems because of the

Oasis warning but it depends on

Monsoon will not start its the company's trading record. started well.

Few have any qualms about

One fund manager com-

Another fund manager said

One said: "There have been

Retail worries cast cloud

over Monsoon's float

Official figures for retail diner, an economist at Morgan sales, cutting through the conflicting anecdotes from retailers. Separately, Halifax reported and for GDP in the final a small decline in house prices quarter of 1997, are expected to m December, taking its measure have most influence on the of house price inflation sharply Bank's Monetary Policy Comlower to 4.3 per cent from 6.1 mittee. But these will not be per cent. This was the lowest available until after its meeting rate since June 1996. Halifax in- tomorrow and Thursday. maksisted this did not mark the end ing next month the most likely

The signals in the survey were too mixed to be decisive The contrast between its Output grew faster, and export orders also increased at a faster pace than the previous month.

What's more, the companies surveyed reported that their suppliers were taking longer to make deliveries, a clear sign that industry is hitting supply bottlenecks. This was particularly marked in the consumer goods industries.

Yet, at the same time, the pace of increase in total order books dipped, the latest in a series of hints that domestic demand is weakening. Manufacturers also said the strong pound was keeping the price of their materials down, and they were continuing to have to cut

"Certainly, the short-run outlook is subdued," said Kevin Darlington at Hoare Govett. But all in all, there was nothing in yesterday's figures to confirm forecasts of either a hard landing or a soft one for the

market at the wrong time in the

cycle when discretionary spend-

ing is starting to be affected by

will be Monsoon's failed at-

tempt to come to the market in

summer 1996. The float was

abandoned due to concerns

over the ultimate beneficiaries

of a Maltese-registered trust

which owned two thirds of the

business. The trust has since

time, NatWest Securities, say

they hope to secure a valuation

of £350m, which would place the

company on a historic multiple

of around 20-times earnings.

This is a premium to the mar-

ket while fund managers and

some analysis feel it should be

run-up to Christmas is thought

to have been solid while the

winter sale is said to have

Monsoon's trading in the

priced at a discount.

Monsoon's hrokers this

been disbanded.

A key factor in the pricing

higher interest rates.

presentations to institutions But they question whether its

until the pathfinder prospectus high margins are sustainable

is published later this month. and whether it is coming to the

Reed sells IPC magazines to Cinven buyout team for £860m

Reed Elsevier yesterday confirmed the longawaited sale of its IPC magazines division to a management buyout team hacked by Cinven, the venture capitalists, for £860m. But the media group stringently denied that it had not treated other bidders in the auction fairly. Peter Thol Larsen reports.

Cinven has arranged debt facilities of £580m for the deal. and will put up over half of the remaining £280m as equity. IPC's management team, led by chief executive Mike Matthew, will buy a "meaningful" equity stake with a consortium of banks controlling the rest.

Cinven director Brian Lin-

the venture capital group had offered too much for the business. He said IPC, which leads the £1.5bn UK magazine market, publishing titles such as Country Life, Woman's Own and Loaded, had good growth potential. Cinven plans to invest in the business before floating it on the stock market in about five years' time.

Reed Elsevier said it was very happy to have done it of the same month. swiftly, cleanly and at such a good price," said finance dimarks the end of Reed's involvement in consumer publishing. It is currently attempting to sell off what remains of its consumer books

Mr Armour said the proceeds, which will leave the group with net cash, would be used to develop its scientific,

den rejected allegations that professional and business divisions, which are concentrating on "must have" information.

Although Reed is currently seeking regulatory approval for its merger with Dutch publishing group Wolters Kluwer, Mr Armour did not rule out making acquisitions before the merger was approved.

The European Commission is due to rule on the deal in April, while shareholders will be delighted with the sale. "We're asked to vote on it at the end

Reed insisted that it had not rector Mark Armour. The sale IPC. The group had angered other hidders by allowing Cinven to enter into exclusive negotiations with IPC's management just before Christmas. But an adviser to Reed said that Cinven's hid had provided the best value, and that none of the other contenders had subsequently attempted to table a

Liffe overtakes CME with

of Cinven, with Mike Matthew, IPC chief executive

The London futures exchange. Liffe, traded a record number of contracts in 1997, its 15th anniversary year, with a 25 per cent increase over 1996. The London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange said it traded 209,425,548 futures and options contracts in the year. Last month was also the husiest December on record, it said. The average annual daily volume rose to 827,759 contracts, a nominal daily average value of \$178.81hn (£109hn). Liffe's chairman, Jack Wigglesworth, said: "Liffe's position as Europe's premier exchange, with the broadest range of contracts, meant that it was able to meet increased demand for risk management instruments arising from uncertainties over EMU and the turbulence in the Far East." He said Lifte had overtaken the Chicago Mercantile Exchange to become the world's second largest tutures and options exchange. The Chicago Board of Trade is the higgest.

New trials at Chiroscience

Chiroscience, the pharmaceutical company, has started clinical studies of a new drug which it hopes will stop cancer growing and spreading. It said the drug, the D2163 matrix metalloproteinuse (MMP) inhibitor for cancer, inhibited enzymes which were believed to be important for the spread of tumours, Crucially, Chiroscience said D2163 was not expected to show the joint inflammation side effects which had dogged other inhibitors, making it suitable for long-term treatment and to prevent cancer recurring after radiation

Maiden wins rail tender

Maiden Group, the outdoor advertising company, has Waverly and Birmingham New Street.

RBS buys stake in A&P

The Royal Bank of Scotland has taken a majority stake in

record trades in 1997

A good read: Brian Linden (right) and Dick Munton (centre)

signed a five-year contract with Railtrack after a competitive tender for the concession to manage exhibition and promotions space on Railtrack's mainline stations in the UK. Maiden said it would invest to upgrade the exhibition facilities and ensure revenue improvement from the estate. Railtrack's exhibition estate comprises 12 display areas at 14 main stations managed by Railtrack, including key London termini as well as Leeds, Manchester Piccadilly, Glasgow Central, Edinburgh

A&P Group, the UK's largest ship repair company which last year carried out the £12m relit of the t)E11 cruise liner, for around £56m. The bank's Royal Bank Development Capital subsidiary has acquired the stake from Schroder Ventures and National Westminster Bank.

This formal notice is issued in compliance with the requirements of, and has been approved by, the London Stock Exchange Limited ("the London Stock Exchange"). This formal notice should be read in conjunction with the listing particulars dated 5th January 1998 (the "Listing Particulars") which contain full details of Elementis (1998) plc (the "Company") and the Introduction of its ordinary shares of 5p each to the Official List of the London Stock Exchange.

Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for up to 450 million ordinary shares of 5p each ("Ordinary Shares") to be admitted to the Official List of the London Stock Exchange. It is expected that admission will become effective and that dealings in the Ordinary Shares will commence on 24th February 1998.

Words and expressions detailed in the Listing Particulars have the same meaning in this

Elementis (1998) plc

(Incorporated and registered in England and Wales under the Companies Act 1985 with registered no. 3299608)

INTRODUCTION of Ordinary Shares to the Official List Sponsored by J. Henry Schroder & Co. Limited

Listing Agent: Cazenove & Co.

Elementis (1998) plc (which is to be renamed Elementis plc) will become the parent company of the Elementis Group whose principal business will be performance chenicals with a focus on chromium chemicals and colourants and additives for coatings

AVAILABILITY OF LISTING PARTICULARS

Copies of the Listing Particulars are available (for collection only during normal business hours) from the Company Announcements Office, London Stock Exchange, Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1HP on the two business days following the date of publication of the Listing Particulars, and may also be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) for collection until 21st January 1998 from the registered office of the Company at:

One Great Tower Street London EC3 5AH

J. Henry Schroder & Co. Limited 120 Cheapside London EC2V 6DS

6th January 1998

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MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

bopes the flow of share buybacks will continue gave blue chips another boost, lifting

Footsie 69 points to 5,262.5. Trading was often brisk as Legal & General's £220m convertible bonds buy-back kick started insurers and talk of corporate action plagued banks and blue chips seen as 6.5p to 298p. There are sugvulnerable to unwelcome

L&G led Footsie constituents, gaining 42p to 590p. Prudential Corporation, 37p higher at 800p, was not far Union and GRE were among others to respond.

on the growing conviction it round of banking deals. National Westminster Bank, explained transaction the then another candidate for the Hanson conglomerate sold

Takeover speculation and corporate merry-go-round. put on 43p to 1.070p.

Vodafone, 17.75p higher at 462.75p, enjoyed the dual benefit of a best-ever quarter and persistent speculation US giant

AT&T is preparing to strike. Energis, controlled by National Grio, dialled a 4.5p gain to 258.5p and Grid added gestions AT&T could mount a double strike, scooping up Vodafone and Energis.

Grid was the most actively put at nearly 55 million shares. behind and Commercial The HSBC banking giant acquired around 12.5 per cent, in a complicated deal with Abbey National climbed to Olayan, an Athens-based a peak, gaining 46p to 1,160p, company run by Suliman Olayan, a Saudi Arabian bil-

lionaire, in March, 1996. In a mysterious, never fully the shares to the HSBC/ Olayan combination at 192p hardened 1.5p to 336.5p, and each. The stake is now around 11.5 per cent.

A solid performance by Government stocks - gains of the chances of share huyup to nearly £2 were scored and a firm New York also offered the market inspiration. dustrial components, firmed to The likelihood UK and US interest rates will not be pushed higher and could even be reduced also helped sentiment.

tainly as the market awaited traded blue chip, with volume the new year array of trading statements. Burton, due to report today, rose 4p to 140p and Boots, expected next Tuesday, firmed 18.5p to 899.5p.

Société Générale Strauss Turnbull introduced a note of caution, banging sell signs on Argos (off 15.5p to 536p): Next (4p to 704p); Storebouse (3p to 234p) and Great Universal Stores (7p to 772p).

Price Cry The Pr

Conglomerate Wassall shipbuilder Vosper Thornycroft held at 806p as Credit Lyonnais Laing highlighted

Wilshaw, a distributor of in-38p. There is talk of a share buy-back although some expect a bid.



Elementis, the former Har- firmed speculation of a reverse changed at 140p as ABN Amro Hoare Govett forecast profits of £46m last year and months ago, has been run by £70m in 1999 from what it Roland Cornisb, formerly called a "major new force in performance chemicals".

Football club Sheffield Utd He made no secret of his fell 7.5p to 43p following reports chairman Mike McDonald bad talked about "financial suicide" if top players are not sold soon to reduce the wage bill.

Pace Micro Technology. the television decoders group which crashed from 235p in the past year. firmed to 47p as Panmure Gordon placed stock. Total turnover was 13.8 million. Airtours enjoyed a seasonal flourish, gaining 30p

to 1,290p, a peak. NRP, once called Nationwide Residential Properties. jumped 17.5p to 69.5p. 1t con-

risons & Crosfield, was little takeover of stockbroker Teather & Greenwood, NRP, which came to market 18 chief of corporate finance at Brown Shipley, for a year.

> a rounded financial group. Ionica's rally came to an abrupt halt with the shares falling 24.5p to 112p; Tepnel Life, the bealthcare group, lost 7p to 57.5p.

> plans to transform NRP into

There was a tingling of mterest in biotechs. Chiroscience added 14p to 237.5p as its cancer drug started phase one clinical trials, and Peptide Therapeutics gained 10p to 276.5p following the disclosure US group Pfizer had agreed to join in the development of Peptide's veterinary allergy

TAKING STOCK

It's looking bleak for Skynet Corporation, the controversial vehicle security group. Dealings in its shares were suspended at 4p on the fringe Ofex market "pending clarififinancial position". An early Ofex high-fiver, the shares soared to around 275p and the group almost transferred to AIM. But questions were raised over share dealings. However, the Securities & Futures Authority has said it not investigating Skynet nor

Speculation of a bid for South ern Electric is strengthening. It is the last of the regional electricity groups to retain its independence. The shares rose 21p to 545p, a peak.

its directors.

AIM-listed Cambridge Mineral Resources, thought to be near to clinching a big deal, rose Ip to 19p, a high.

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23/BUSINESS

How the next global crisis will be different for investors



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HAMISH **MCRAE** ON THE FEAR OF DEFLATION

Every year the Montreal-based Bank Credit Analyst prints a conversation between one of its long-time subscribers, Mr X. and the editors - a conversation about the main economic events and influences which over the coming 12 months. The views of BCA editors are always interesting, for they take a longer-term view of world economic events than any other group I know. But this particular exercise is especially interesting this year, for it highlights the great transition that the world is making from an environment of inflation to one of deflation.

It is not, of course, certain yet, but it does appear that the great inflation of the second half of the 20th century is over - the greatest inflation that, for example, this country has known since the Middle Ages. What comes next? Is it a century of stable prices or one of slowly falling prices like the 19th century? A world of stable prices might enable a century of great prosperity, but the transition from one monetary environment to another might be botched.

Alan Greenspan, head of the US Federal Reserve Board, put an interesting perspective on

this in a speech at the weekend. sharp a slowdown as it did in the and equities will perform poorly. He said that just as even moderate rates of inflation hamcould also damage it. "Deflation, like inflation, would distort resource allocation and interfere with the economy's ability to reach its full potential." But deflation carried further risks, for as nominal interest rates could not go below zero, a world of falling prices could lead to high real interest rates.

The BCA editors start from the position that deflation is the key force shaping the investment outlook this year. Mr X is worried: might the Asian crisis trigger a global financial crisis,

Yes, is the reply, mainly because the cause of it, overinvestment in manufacturing capacity, puts a powerful deflationary force on the whole of the world. Cheaper exports will shape the world economy from the region will booat spending power in the main economies but their exports will be squeezed by this competition. The BCA people reckon that global economic growth will slow from around 4 per cent last year to perhaps 2.5 per cent this; by comparison, in 1990-91 the global slowdown was from 4 per

cent to 2 per cent. facing in aggregate almost as are, they believe, over-valued

early 1990s recession. One effect (see left-band chart) will pered economic performance, be for inflation, already below so moderate rates of deflation the level of the 1960s, to fall even further. "Once world economic growth is back on track. say by mid-1999, inflation will be so low that it will no longer figure in investors' plans,"

> will have an important effect on investment strategy, for bonds and equities will tend to move in opposite directions. For the last 30 years, in an inflationary environment, bonds and equities have tended to move in the same direction: when one goes up so does the other. That was because most shocks were monetary and inflationary: what was bad news for bonds was also bad news for companies. But in a deflationary world most shocks will be economic in nature. This affects companies hut not bonds. So bonds will play a more important role in portfolios, for they will provide diversification. This negative correlation between bonds and equities has been evident in

Japan for several years. So far, falling inflation has heen very positive for share prices (the middle graph shows the 20-year bull run), just as rising inflation during the 1970s If that is right, the world is was bad for shares. But shares

Bonds, by contrast, will do well. Once world growth is re-established, the long-term bull market in equities can resume.

sumption of the BC4 editors that the outlook will most likely be non-inflationary rather than deflationary. They think that is most likely, but acknowledge the This, the BCA team argues, danger that the world is walking on a tightrope. Mr X worries that there are similarities with the 1930s. BC4 reckons that this is possible, but only as a worstcase scenario.

The conversation then moves to the world economy. where the main features are a slowdown in the US and UK with growth at ahout 2 per cent: actual recession in Japan (40 per cent of its exports go to Asia), and continental Europe hattling into a strong headwind of corporate restructuring against a background of continuing weak domestic demand, As you can see in the right-hand graph, retail sales on the Continent have been flat or trend will be Canada, with

about 3 per cent growth. The practical impact on this for investment? The view, as summed by Mr X, is generally negative on equities, and particularly for emerging market

equities. The UK, Italy and maybe Germany will do best among the major markets, while the US market will "skate though" only on the back of a All this is based on the presharp fall in bond yields. "Once the deflation scare is over, the long wave will come into play

> ties? Good for the dollar, bad for the yen - a fall to \forall 150 could easily occur. Will the euro selfdestruct? The BCA editors think on balance not, though it will be possible to make a nocost bet against it by staying in the German mark. Since the curo will initially be perceived as a weak currency, the Swiss frane and the pound will have "safe haven" status and will tend to rise. Commodities: general weakness, including weakness in the gold market until the de-

Currencies and commodi-

flation scare is over. Finally the conversation turns to risks. The BC4 team note five hig risks to the world economy: Asia-centred global recession; trade protection returning: stock market crash negative since 1991. The only and deflationary spiral; EMU large economy to grow above faltering, and dollar collapse as inflation returns.

> The first three might run together, for if turmoil in Asia pushes the world into recession, there will be great protectionist pressure, which in turn might lead to a global (as opposed to just an Asian) stock market crash. EMU faltering, on the other hand, is a one-off. The problem is that financial markets are assuming EMU will occur on schedule and so failure, or even delay, would be very disruptive. As for the dollar collapse, that risk is at the other end of the spectrum, with Japan in particular suddenly repatriating its assets: maybe not so likely, but worth acknowledging.

Given this little list of uncertainties. Mr X has decided that he may this year need to drop by before next December in case things start moving rather too fast.

PEOPLE & **BUSINESS**

IOHN WILLCOCK



Here's a novel job creation scheme; Under the terms of the merger between SBC Warburg and UBS, most of the staff in London have had to reapply for their jobs. In practice, this means that the Warburgers have to interview the UBS people and the UBS chaps interview the Warburgers.

This bizarre charade bas done nothing to lift lowly morale at UBS, where there is general acceptance that the plum jobs have already been earmarked for their new Warburg pals.

Demonstrating the cultural chasm that still separates Brits and Yanks despite decades of Americanisation over here, a management guru from across the pond has just written a new tome for husinessmen. The Seven Habus of Highly Effective Families.

Stephen R Covey, author of the highly successful The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, has turned from the corporate to the private world, with predictably toe-curling

For instance, who in Britain would dare urge their readers to "create a family mission statement - a compelling, unifying expression of shared vision and values".

Mr Covey compares family life to the flight of an airplane - it's OK to be lost 90 per cent of the time so long as you know your destination, Perbaps this Disneyfication of business will go down well in Florida, but I can't see it catching on in Solihull.

Mr Covey says that UK based companies using his Covey Leadership Techniques include BT. Woolworths and British Nuclear Fuels. Obviously his touchy-feely, let's-hug-a-tree Meyer, the building materials group which philosophy has rubbed off on Bill Cockburn, BT's group managing director.

Mr Cockburn built a fearsome reputation in his previous jobs at the Post Office and then helm of the group.

WH Smith for cutting jobs. Yet his first real act since his surprise appointment at BT late last year has been to allow BT's London staff to quaff an airline-style quarter bottle of wine with their Christmas meal. The lucky employees tucked into Parma barn and melon, turkey with all the trimmings, Christmas pudding and the aforesaid plonk, all for £8 a head.

No doubt Mr Covey would approve of such loving, supportive behaviour. On the other hand, perhaps Mr Cockburn is just fattening the staff up for the chop.

Paut Chevalier Buysse is taking early retirement from BTR, a surprise since the Belgianborn executive director is generally reckoned to be popular with the company's chief executive, Ian Strachan. BTR is trying to turn itself from an unfashionable conglomerate into a focused engineering group. It also had the distinction in 1997 of being the worst performing share in the FTSE 100. BTR said yesterday that a replacement for Mr Buysse will be made in due course.

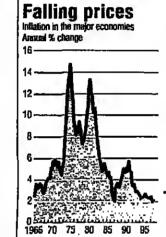
I rang the Treasury yesterday to chat with Geoffrey Robinson about my many and varied offshore investments, but sadly the Paymaster-General's press minder, Malcoim Grade, was not in the office to arrange the interview. Mr Grade's roof had blown off in the weekend storms. This would normally be a cue for some pun on "windfall tax" or the like, but somehow I can't manage it. It must be Post Festive Season Ennui (PFSE).

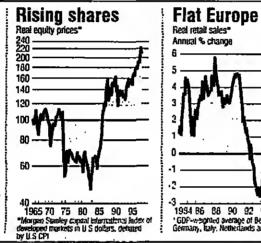
Everyone seems to have a tale to tell from the recent bad weather. Lanson PR executive Tamsin Martle spent Christmas at her family's home in Wales, the region worst hit by power cuts, where the electricity was at least restored by mid-afternoon on Christmas Day, just in time to cook the turkey.

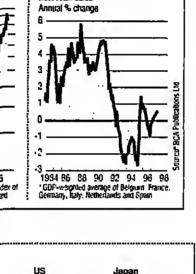
Emma Kane, a director at the Basham & Coyle PR partnership, wins the sympathy prize. Her car was broken into and all her family Christmas presents stolen just before Yuletide, It was the early hours of Christmas Eve before the window was repaired and, on the following Sunday, husband Frank, soon to star in the rebirth of Sunday Business, set off from their Brighton home to watch Spurs play Arsenal, leaving the car but taking the car keys with him. This meant be had to go all the way back to Brighton to collect the family after the game. Frank supports Spurs, who dropped into the relegation zone after salvaging a single point for the draw. I expect he's glad to be back at work.

John Dobby has retired as chief executive of owns Jewson, after 39 years with the company.

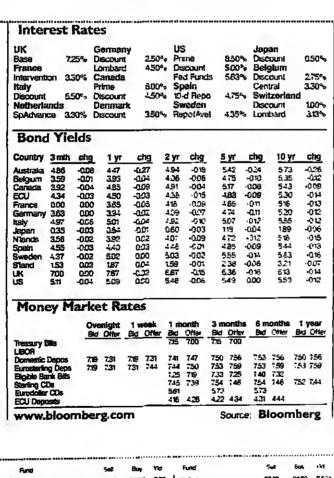
As indicated last June, Alan Petersen, the managing director of Jewson, will assume the





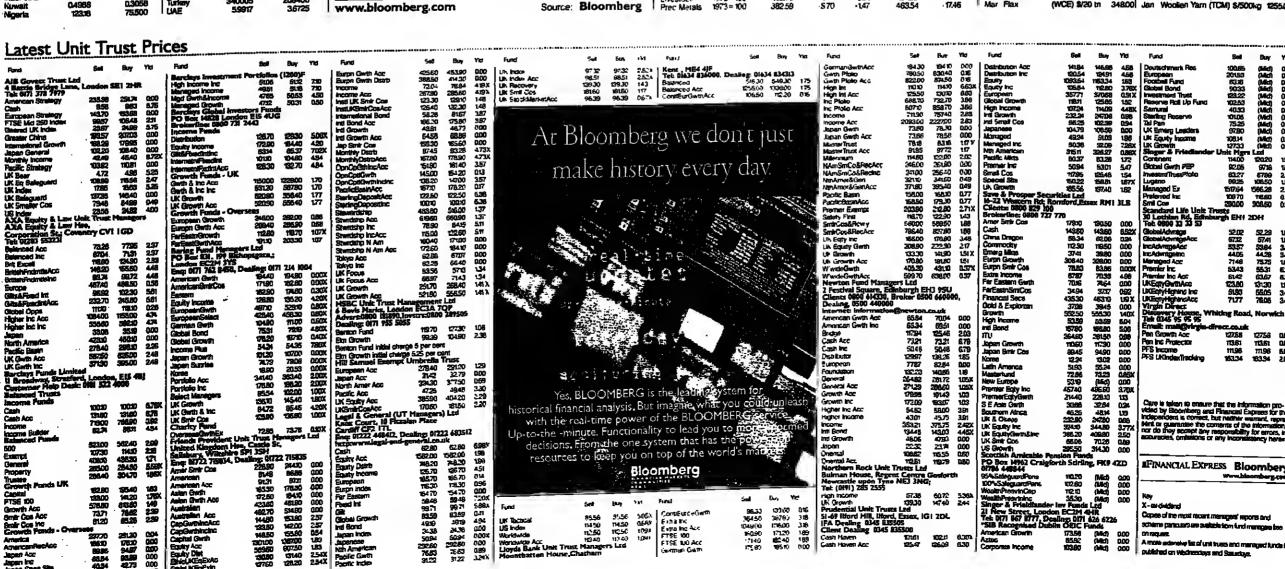


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Coughlan carries US tour card with pride

it is not unusual for a star of college golf to turn professional and immediately join the US tour. But, as Andy Farrell reports, for one young Irishman to gain playing rights for his rookie season in both America and Europe is unique.

Last month in Florida, the Swede Joakim Haeggman decided to follow the Jesper Parnevik route to success hut did oot earn a full card at US Qualifying School in Florida. Richie Coughlan did, froishing ninth at Grenelefe, although the 23-year-old Irishman had only held his European tour card for less than two weeks.

Coughlan is thought to be unique in passing every stage of both the US and European qualifying schools without having played as a professional in any other tournament. Whether that is strictly true or not, it is a tremendous feat that induces jet-lag just thinking about.

"It was just adrenaline that got me through," Coughlan said. "I was probably more fatigued than 1 thought, but what better motivation is there than trying to get a tour card?"

Though he secured the 33rd card on offer at the rain-ruined European school - he played four rounds in 11 days but spent the rest of the time sleeping - his main aim was to get his

place on the US tour. "Even though I had my European card, it didn't matter to me," he said. "The pluses are so much better over there. You see it on TV and it just looks great; the organisation and the courses, and the money is much better. 1 went over there with a

Coughlan may hall from Birr, first European Pre-Qualifying

Carolina, where he graduated with a degree in communications and psychology. America has become home. He plans to make his base near the college since his friends remain in the area, he is welcomed to all the local courses and it is only two hours from Atlanta airport.

"Nothing against over here, but you get used to it out there." Coughlan said. "If you play golf seriously, it is a great place to be. Most of the courses are manicured perfectly and it is target golf, which is the fairest golf. If you are not going to get this poxy bounce or anything.

"You have the same speed greens, which is good for your

NEW FACES FOR '98

RICHIE COUGHLAN

confidence instead of playing on different greens every week and wondering what the hall is over there has taught me discipline. It made you realise how hard you have to practice, but you look back over your scores and see them getting better,"

A record of one win and six top-10 finishes in 11 evects was good enough for the Great Britain & Ireland selectors to pick Coughlan for the Walker Cup at Quaker Ridge. The result was a trouncing for the visitors but that did not reflect the way Coughlan played, nor affected his confidence as he set

off on his transatlantic adventure. He failed to get through the

Co Offaly, but after five years Bt at East Sussex National, but Clemsoo University in South after that he was an accumulative 39 under par for 24 rounds. And this is meant to be the most pressurised golf gets. While the shility to shoot a low round always provided a cushion, that he never scored worse than a 73 is even more impressive.

He breezed through the first stage of the US tour school at Savannah, Georgia, then won the European PQ2 section at Emporada with a last-round 65. The second stage of the US school was at a course in Florence. South Carolina, he knew well and Coughlan opened with it's 155 yards and an eight-iron, a 64. After surviving the European finals, the last phase of the American school meant a trip back to Florida.

Having got into position over the first four rounds, the last two of the 108-hole marathoo revealed Coughlan's quick grasping of vital qualities of heing a professional golfer. "I waso't swinging as well as I wanted to, but I didn't hit any destructive shots. The fifth round was not a pretty thing. just a pure grind, and the last round was adrenaline.

"I was playing with two guys but [they] were four or five over, while I was one under. I felt so had for those two guys to see it going to do. Being at college all waste away for them. I had 24 putts in the last round, which was a saviour. It is always nice when you putt well under pressure, but if all rounds of golf felt like the last round there, I wouldn't play."

Coughlan, a long but straight hitter in the modern trend, has the necessary attributes to succeed on the US tour. Getting into contention to win would not phase him, but he knows what his first objective must be. "To retain my card," he said, "There would be nothing worse than struggling and then having to go through the same thing again. It was bell on earth."



Richie Coughlan: 'If you play golf seriously [America] is the place to be'

Photograph: David Maher/Sportsfile

OVERALL SCORE CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM 8 AUGUST - 4 JANUARY

Montgomerie mines \$1 m in the desert

Colin Montgomerie survived a few late scares to beat Davis Love by two holes in the 36-hole final of the Andersen Consulting World Championship in Scottsdale, Arizona.

The win earned the Scot \$1m (£660,000) and he can now sit back and enjoy the benefits of his latest big-money bonanza before returning to action in Dubai after a month's hreak.

Montgomerie finished the first 18 holes one up after twice going behind in the opening exchanges. At that stage he was happy to be in front but far from satisfied with his overall performance. "I don't think either of us played to our potential but it was always going to be very close," he said

· Europe's No 1 kept hold of that slender advantage over the first 10 holes of the second round before hitting Love with three winning holes out of the oext four. ·

The path looked clear for Montgomerie to cruise home lying four up with four holes to play. However, the partisan crowd were given hope of B bome victory as Love took the next three holes. Yet the Scot's nerve beld and a superb second shot at the par-five 18th sealed the issue. His ball lay snugly in the middle of the green as Love missed an eagle putt and conceded victory.

"It was a great game," Mont-gomerie said. "I always thought it would be close, although not that close at four up with four to play. Davis hit back with marvellons hirdies at 15 and 16 and then I gave him 17 to send it down to the wire.

"But the second on 18 was marvellous. I would have been delighted with that shot in a practice round, never mind the

pressure that was on at the time. When you lose three on the trot you start to worry about pushing it this way or that way - but I'm glad I hit the green."



The Independent Fantasy Football League. The player scores are for all League games played until Sunday January 1st. The league table includes all scores up to December 28th.

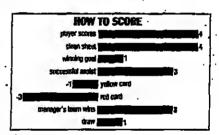
Our latest monthly winner is Ms Isabel McDonald. Her team 'Willy's Wizard' has 179 points and wins her a pair of tickets to Englands next home international.

Today we publish the updated results of Every time one of your players score you get four points. There are four points for a keeper or a defender every time their team er is given a Red Card they lose 3 points. Own goals, either keeps a clean sheet. If a player scores the winning goal, i.e.: if there is a one goal difference in the scoreline, the player scoring the final goal for the winning team is awarded 1 bonus point awarded in addition to standard goal related points. Each successful Assist, a pass judged by our experts to lead directly to a goal, will give a player 3 points. The opinion of our experts on the matter is final. Each player selected and starting a game

If a player is given a Yellow Card they lose I point, if a play-

scored or conceded, do not count. The Premiership Manager that you choose will be awarded 3 points if their real-life team wins, 1 point is awarded if they

draw and no points are given if they lose. Updated player scores and league tables will be published every Tuesday in The Independent and repeated the following Sunday in the Independent on Sunday.



INDEPENDENT FANTASY

Ç#	LCULATED ON MATCHES	PLAYED FROM & AUGUST - 28 L	DECEMBER
			-
POS	NAME	TEAM I	TAIO
1	Mr D Baker	Deja Vu	719
2	Mr B Srai	The Untouchables	718
4	Mr D Aston Mr B Srai	Billy Boys 2nd II	718
5	Miss Lisa Wild	Simply The Best Amerretto AFC	717
6	Mr Archer	No Wright	716
6	Mr J McCrossam	Washed Up Army	71J
6	Mr S Scott	Unbeatable	711
9	Mr C King	Seeking Victory	710
9 .	Mr P Tuffer	Pins Ups 4	71G
9	Mr D Evans	Boothen End Old Boys	710
9	Mr I Cox	Southville FC	710
13	Mr I Boyle	Wembley Bounders	707
13	Mr A Wingrove	Tony's Brace	707
13	Mr T Lyons	Diana's Demons	707
16	Mr D Edmington	Edmo United	705
17	Mr D Aston	Billy Boy's 3rd II	700
17	Mr G Bell	Stunning Stunts	700
19	Mr G Bell	The Hairy Monsters	694
19	Mr J Cox	Retro Rovers	694
21	Mr D Ackroyd	jack's Lads	693
22	Mr G Ford	Linthorpe Rovers	692
22	Mr A Choudhi	Nikies 9th II	692
22	Mr j McCrossam	Washed Up Army	692
22	Mr K Boyle	Clogston Rovers	692
26	Mr i Brown	The Hoofers	69 1
26 28	Mr S Scott	The Dream Team	691
28 29	Mr C Thomas	Scunthrope Extras	690
29 30	Mr D Baker Mr A Cummingham	Dead Heat	689
31	Mr M Ewins	The Zebra	688
32	Mr S Man	Mikes C Team	686
33	Mr D McCarrer	Rebecca Rovers McCarrer II	684
33	Mr M Ward	Team A 40	683
33	Mr S Walker	Daniel's Unitted	683
33	Mr C Hempstead	Viva Baby Io	683
37	Mr M Pawley	Robert's Raiders	682
37	Mr Brady	Look Lively	682
39	Mr M Ewins	I've Started But Will ! Finis	
39	Mr M Ewins	Mikes A Team	681
39	Mr A Mitchell	The Eye For It	681
39	Mr M Rickard	Aller Lamberg	188
43	Mr D Baker	SPF Rules	680
43	Mr F Henderson	Secondary Celtic	680
43	Mr j Hayes	Early Birds	680
46	Mr P Cridland	PDC2	679

CODE MATER	TEAM WE ON YA	E COOK PLATES TE	A ME IV 10TE	CHOS PLUIZA	TEAM WE ON TALKE	CORE MAXER	TEAM WE DV VALUE	CODE PLATER TEAM WE OV TALES
GOALKEEP 303 Seaman 303 Lakic 304 Manninger 305 Bosnich 306 Oakes 307 Watson 308 Lease 309 Flowers 310 Filan 323 Branagan 324 De Gooy 325 Grodus 326 Ogrkrovic 327 Hedman 328 Nuch 329 Day 340 Poom 341 Houli 342 Southall 343 Cerrard 344 Poom 343 Houli 344 Southall 345 Gerrard 346 Refler 349 Poot 350 James 351 Marter 352 Marter 354 Schroeichel 355 Van Der Gouw 356 Given 357 Halop 358 Preseman 359 Taylor 356 Given 357 Halop 358 Preseman 359 Taylor 356 Given 357 Halop 358 Green 357 Halop 358 Green 357 Maller 358 Green 357 Maller 359 Taylor 350 Sulfvan DEFENDER 400 Duron 403 Upson 405 Grimend 406 Winterburn 407 Bould 408 Adams 409 Keown 431 Southgale 432 Seimen 433 Graynon 433 Graynon 434 Elnogu 435 Graynon 436 Wingh 437 Seimen 437 Colemna 448 Hendry 440 Kenna 448 Hendry 447 Colemna 448 Hendry 449 Kenna 449 Kenna 450 Henchoz 451 Valery	ARS 0 47 47 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48	499 Bergson Bi 400 Duberry 401 Purescu Cr 403 Lambounde Cr 404 Lambounde Cr 405 Leborof Cr 406 Sinetair Cr 406 Berrows 407 Dash 408 Berrows 409 Berrows 409 Berrows 400 Hawomb Cr 407 Hawomb Cr 407 Tuttle 407 Tuttle 407 Roberts 407 Tuttle 407 Roberts 407 Simac Cr 407 Linghan Cr 407 Roberts 407 Simac Cr 408 Simac Cr 408 Simac Cr 409 Herebreau Cr 409 Simac Cr 400 Washound Cr 400 Hincholiffe File 401 Horebridge File 402 Webertell LE 403 Roberts 404 Keby LE 405 Webertell LE 406 Molenaar LE 407 Dorigo LE 408 Webertell LE 408 Roberts 409 Walsh 500 Whithw BC 500 Whithw BC 500 Whithw BC 500 Whithw BC 500 Hartons 500 Hincholife 500 Whithw BC 501 Hartons 502 Hinchol 503 Billion LE 504 Hartons 505 Preville 506 Ruddeck Lr 507 Pallister 508 Kvarme 509 Billion LE 509 Billion LE 500 Whith 501 Hartons 502 Hartons 503 Billion LE 504 Hartons 505 Ruddeck 506 Ruddeck 507 Hartons 508 Kvarme 509 Billion LE 500 Whith 501 Hartons 502 Ruddeck 503 Preville 504 Hartons 505 Ruddeck 505 Ruddeck 506 Ruddeck 507 Pallister 508 Kvarme 509 Billion 500 Ruddeck 500 Ruddeck 501 Preville 503 Ruddeck 504 Ruddeck 505 Ruddeck 505 Ruddeck 506 Ruddeck 507 Ruddeck 507 Ruddeck 508 Ruddeck 509 Ruddeck 500	17 12 3 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 1	5-01 Lundekvom 5-03 Scales 5-04 Camphell 5-05 Camphell 5-05 Calmphell 5-05 Calmphell 5-05 Camphell 5-05 Posts 5-05 Posts 5-05 Camphell 5-05 Camphell 5-05 Camphell 6-05 Plant 6-06 Plant 6-06 Plant 6-06 Plant 6-06 Plant 6-06 Plant 6-06 Overmans 6-07 Plant 6-08 Camphell 6-09 Camphell	SOU 5 25 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	679 Sizarpe 680 Ribeiro 683 Hauland 684 Parker 685 Drifer 686 Ezent 687 Lemon 688 Guppy 689 Barnes 690 Redkumpp 689 Barnes 690 Redkumpp 689 Barnes 690 Redkumpp 690 Redkumpp 691 Melkinaman 694 Thomas 695 Leconhardsen 695 Econhardsen 696 Giggs 697 Beckham 698 Keane 699 Bett 700 Probotski 703 Lee 704 Battly 705 Gillespie 706 Reandsley 707 Ketsbara 708 Binker 709 Whot Battly 707 Ketsbara 708 Binker 709 Whot Battly 707 Anderion 734 Magliton 735 Carbone 734 Magliton 735 Calley 737 Anderion 736 Calley 737 Anderion 738 Fix 739 Howells 740 Gisocla 743 Sinton 744 Nielsanson 745 Williamson 745 Williamson 745 Williamson 746 Parker 757 Calley 757 Anderion 750 Lomas 753 Lones 754 Earle 755 Feat 757 C Hughes ST RUKERS SOO Bergicamp 800 Wright 807 Collymore 808 Wright 807 Collymore 808 Wright 807 Collymore 808 Wright 807 Collymore 808 Wightson 809 Hendrie 837 Collymore 838 Sook 839 Mallighes 830 Ma Hughes 830 Mallighes 837 Blake 838 Zola 839 Mallighes 841 Dublin 845 Whelan pblished. Supported by	LEE 0 0 13 35 LEE 0 21 125 LEE 0 0 10 25 LEE 0 0 26 25 LEE 0 0 38 30 LEE 0 0 30 35 LEE 0 0 30 35 LEE 0 0 36 38 LEE 0 0 37 LIV 0 0 25 40 LEE 0 0 36 38 LEE 0 0 36 38 LEE 0 0 37 LIV 0 0 25 LEE 0 0 36 38 LEE 0 0 36 38 LEE 0 0 36 38 LEE 0 0 37 LIV 0 0 26 38 LEE 0 0 36 38 LEE 0 0 36 38 LEE 0 0 37 LEE 0 0 38 30 LEE	## B46 Huckerty COV 0 42 35 84 Lightbourne COV 0 16 15 849 Dyer CRY 0 27 24 859 Dyer CRY 0 27 24 859 Dyer CRY 0 3 3 17 859 Dyer CRY 0 3 3 17 855 Ward BAR 0 35 25 857 Wardscope OER 0 40 30 858 Fergusson EVE 0 37 64 859 Barmby EVE 0 19 44 860 Desme LEE 0 0 34 858 Harmby EVE 0 19 44 856 Claridge LEE 0 8 35 LIRE 0 9 35 35 866 Harmby LEE 0 40 30 867 Fowler LIV 0 53 93 868 Berger LIV 0 20 48 869 Owen LIV 0 55 23 867 Scholes MAN 0 77 64 874 Solekjaer MAN 0 47 64 875 Sheringham MAN 0 60 54 877 Sheringham MAN 0 60 54 877 Sheringham MAN 0 60 54 877 Sheringham MAN 0 0 24 887 Sheringham MAN 0 10 24 888 Graph Ferdinand NEW 0 20 74 888 Graph Ferdinand NEW 0 20 74 888 Graph Sheringham NEW 0 20 74 889 Graph Sheringham Sheringham NEW 0 20 74 889 Graph Sheringham Sheringham NEW 0 20 74 889 Graph Sheringham Sheringham Sheringham Sheringham Sheringham Sheringham NEW 0 20 74 889 Graph Sheringham Sheringha

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Same Care

Both Edward Common Comm

Irish may hold court in Ladbroke

Jenny Pitman staged a successful raid on Leopardstown when Master Tribe won The Ladbroke last year but. following yesterday's declaration stage, Greg Wood thinks it is likely the prize may stay at home this year.

Still bloated following their acquisition of Coral's betting business last week, Ladbrokes will be hoping to ease any indigestion with a hookie-friendly result in their handicap hurdle at Leopardstown this weekend, ground at the five-day stage yesterday, they appear to stand every chance of doing so. Even Arthur Moore. The same train-

Saturday afternoon, there will Jamie, who landed something of still be more than enough horses trying to squeeze their way around Leopardstown's tight inside track, and all har the winner will prohably have a day. hard-luck story to tell after-

Seven of the latest acceptors will be trying to win the Ladbroke Hurdle for Britain for the second successive year, following the victory of Jenny Pitman's Master Tribe 12 months ago, hut to judge by the latest betting, it is much more likely that normal service will be resumed. Irishtrained horses won every running of the race between 1988 and 1996. Commanche Court, last year's Triumph Hurdle winand after 26 runners stood their ner, is the sponsor's 5-1, with 8-1 offered against Graphic Equaliser, who is trained by

a gamble in the William Hill Handicap Hurdle at Sandown in December, and is a 14-1 chance to follow up on Satur-

The shortest price among the British contingent is the 12-1 chalked up against Nick Hen-

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Among Islands (Ludlow 2.00) **NB: Cool Runner** (Ludlow 2.30)

derson's Sharpical, but of the remaining six horses making the trip, only Tibetan (Lady Herries | and Top Cees (Lynda Ramsden) are worth a quote of 14-1 and 16-1 respectively.

Puniers who prefer something more akin to a horse race if there are a few absentees on er is also represented by Major than the National Lottery also and I have also put him in the the Tolworth.

Saturday.

least two of the intended runners three days ago seem sure fore then." to he among them. Laredo, trained by Noel Chance, and Oliver Sherwood's Lord Of The River backed up by Budrun, although French Holly, and Him Of Praise (Cazawho might well have started let/Mildmay Chase). Grey Shot, less than 20-1, and are priced at favourite for the Newbury race. a fine stayer on the Flat and a may wait for an alternative en- serious contender for the gagement a) Ascot instead. Champion Hurdle, will be "He'll definitely he entered among Buddy Marvel's rivals in

have plenty to look forward to Tolworth Hurdle on the same this weekend, as Sandown card." Ferdy Murphy, his trainstages the Cazalet/Mildmay er. said yesterday. "But he has Mcmorial Chase, the Tolworth also got the option of the Vic-Hurdle and a special event to tor Chandler Novice Hurdle replace the Challow Hurdle, over two miles and four furlongs which sank beneath the waves the following Saturday when the along with the rest of the card trip and the track will be right scheduled for Newbury last for him. I am a bit sceptical about running over two miles six Entries for the Levy furlongs at Sandown where Board/Sandown Park Hurdle they walk home. Cheltenbarn is will close tomorrow, but at the whole plan and I don't want to give him a hard race be-

Sherwood will send a strong team to Sandown, with Lord Of The River are both expected to dy Marvel (Tolworth Hurdle)

RACING'S FUTURES MARKET

Horse (Trainer/weight)	Coral	William Hill	Ladbrokes	Tota
Commenche Court (T Walshylbst12b)	5-1	9-2	5-1	9-
Graphic Equaliser (A Moore/10st)	9-1	9-1	B-1	9-1
Sharpical (N Henderson(GB)/10stSb)	10-1	12-1	12-1	10-1
Arctic Weather (M O'Ener/10st)	14-1	14-1	14-1	12:1
Tibeten (Lady Hernes (GB)/10er(2b)	14-1	14-1	14-1	12-1
Fishin Joelle (P Matthews/9st8fb)	16-1	14-1	14-1	16-1
Hard News (D Kelly/8s/9b)	14-1	14-1	14-1	16-1
Major Jamie (A Mocre/ICst1b)	12-1	14-1	14-1	16-1
Toest The Spreace (A P O'Bren/11st@b)	12-1	15-1	20-1	15-1
Top Cees (lidrs J R Ramsdan (GB)/10st)	20-1	16-1	16-1	16-1
Lady Daley (A M.dire/fist9b)	25-1	30-1	20-)	25-
Melastanio (D McArcin/9s137b)	16-1	25-1	25-1	20-1
Theatreworld (A P O'Brien/12st)	25-1	20-1	25-1	20-1
Tidjani (F Berry/9st)	20-1	25-1	16-1	20-1
All The Vermils (J. Multern/Sec7b)	25-1	25-1	33-1	25-1
Ciera's Prince (F Flood/SstSb)	25-1	25-1	25-1	33-
Desert Mountain (N.A. Callaghen/10st/16)	25-1	25-1	25-1	33-
Gazaleni (P O'Brady/10stSb)	33-1	33-1	33-1	25-
Natsompletningbut (P Muline/10st/Sb)	20-1	33-1	33-1	20-
Advocat (N Meade/8s10b)	33-1	33-1	33-1	40-
Ginger Fox (Mrs J Pamen IGB)/Bsr(30)	33-1	33-1	33-1	40-1
Moorleh (N.A. Twiston-Davies (GB)/11st4b)	25-1	40-1	33-1	25-1
Collon Leader (J Larkn/9st2b)	33-1	50-1	33-1	33-
Leggagh Lady (P J Flym/Sst6tx)	40-1	33-1	50-1	40-1
Durently Fort (T J OMsre/8st10b)	68-1	68-1	50-1	50-1
Non Vintage (M C Chepmen (GB)/9sr10b)	68-1	68-1	66-1	68-1

Ladhroka Handisan Humila (2m)

Charip	WON THUI	dle (2m l	vyas)	
Horse (Trainer)	Coral	Willen Hill	Ladhrokes	Total
istabraq (A P O'Bren/iri)	9-2	4-1	4-1	4-1
Shedow Leeder (C Egenon)	6-1	6-1	6-1	5-1
Collier Bay (J Old)	10-1	10-1	10-1	12-1
Senmertine (D Nicholson)	10-1	12-1	12-1	11-1
Relimet (D Nicholson)	10-1	14-1	10-1	11 -1
Grey Shot () Balding)	16-1	14-1	16-1	12-1
Grimes (C Rochelit)	20-1	25-1	16-1	18-1
Prichell (M Pipe)	25-1	20-1	20-1	20-1
Marello (Mrs. M Reveley)	25-1	25-1	33-1	20-1
Dato Star (J M Jefferson)	16-1	40-1	40-1	25-1
I'm Supposin (R Rove)	25-1	33-1	40-1	40-1

Horse (Trainer)	Coral	William HER	Ladbrokes	Tota
Domine Pride (M Hourigen/irl)	7-1	6-1	7-1	7-1
The Grey Monk (G Richards)	7-1	6-1	6-1	6 -1
Imperial Call (F Sutherland/H)	6-1	7-1	6-1	7-1
Surry Bary (C Brooks)	8-1	B-1	9-1	6-1
See More Business (P Nichols)	7-1	12-1	12-1	10-1
Rough Quest (T Casey)	14-1	16-1	14-1	8-1
Strong Promise (G Hubberd)	15-1	20-1	20-1	20-1
Addington Boy (G Richards)	16-1	25-1	20-1	14-1
Barton Bank (D Nicholson)	25-1	33-1	33-1	20-1
Challenger Du Luc (M Ploe)	25-1	33-1	25-1	2 >1
Coome Hills (W Dennis)	25-1	33-1	20-1	25-1
Cyborgo (M Pipe)	16-1	33-1	33-1	33-1
Danoil (T Foley/M)	33-1	33-1	25-1	33-1

Trainer David Morley dies after heart attack

David Morley, the Newmarket- he had a running battle with his dle Park for the Sheikh last year. 58. Morley, whose string was based at High Havens Stables on Newmarket's Hamilton Road, is believed to have suffered a heart attack yesterday morning.

Morley was responsible for many winners in the colours of Hamdan Al-Maktoum, but his lev his first Group One victory most successful horse during 1997 was Celeric, who won the Gold Cup at Royal Ascot under Pat Eddery.

Eddery said: "He will be deeply missed. He was one of the nicest people you could possibly meet. He had been ill for some time, but appeared to be doing all right. It is devastating news."

Willie Carson, who before his retirement from raceriding. last year had enjoyed a successful partnership with Celeric, said: "It is very sad. Although

on Sunday because of the heavy

been sweeping the country.

LINGFIELD (AW)

GOING: Standard. STALLS: 5f B Im - outside; remainder - inside DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low best over 5f 3 8t.

based trainer, has died. He was health for a number of years, we Gold said: "He was a very, very hoped he would last a lot good trainer who got the best longer. He was a great friend to out of every horse in the yard tne and I had a lot of fun riding for him. We had a good relationship.

> Carson, who rode for Sheikh Hamdan, partnered his Fard when the 33-1 shot gave Morin the 1994 Middle Park Stakes. "It was a great thrill to win

the Middle Park on Fard for campaigner Burooj. He came David," Carson said. "It was his first Group One win and gave us all a great thrill. David was just starting to get into the hig er. time and would have trained many more Group One winners. It's tragic to leave such a rode for Morley when he first young family. He will be sadly, sadly missed."

Angus Gold, racing manager to Sheikh Hamdan, also paid tribute to Morley, who sent out Hayil to win another Mid- 1982. It is very sad."

Prospects for the resumption of :-- Lingfield became another vic- Ansell, the clerk of the course.

turf racing at Ludlow today, tim of the heavy rain when the said yesterday: "We remain

appear brighter following a fixture was called off following waterlogged and unraceable."

night. No inspection is now hut no problems are reported stored at Exeter following the

planned for a meeting which for the track's all-weather Flat gales, the course still requires re-

rain and storms which have tion at 2.00pm tomorrow to de- the track we can't get on the

Tomorrow's turf meeting at meeting can go shead. Nick need a miracle to race."

Ludlow hopeful but other cards in doubt

much-needed dry spell over- a 3.00pm inspection yesterday.

had looked in serious jeopardy meeting today.

12.45 Churchill'a Shadow 1.15 Shuttlecock 1.45 Mystical 2.15 Best Of Our Days 2.45 MYSTA-

GOGUE (nap) 3.15 Grooms Gold 3.45 Davis

● Equitrack surface; left-hand, sharp undulating course.

● Equitrack surface; left-hand, sharp undulating course.

● Course is SE of town on B3028. Lingfield station (served by London, Victoria) adjors course. ADMISSION: Members £13, Family Enclosure £9. CAR PARK: Club £3; remainder free.

● LEADING TRAINERS: G L Moore 74-535 (13.6%), M Johnston 50-269 (18.8%), R Harmon 43-312 (13.8%), Lord Hunting-

ston 50-289 (183%), R Haumon 43-312 (133%), Lord Humang-don 38-197 (193%).

© LEADING JOCKETS: S Sanders 54-517 (104%), S Whitworth 40-296 (135%), O Holland 38-182 (205%), II Biggs 32-372 (35%).

© FAVOURITES: 667-1984 (331%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Anisce (visored) (115), Burnden Days (2.15); Alistans Dencer (345).

12.45 WWW.BARRYDENNIS.CO.UK H'CAP (CLASS F) (Div I) \$2,500 added 1m

1.15 HOOD SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS G) \$2,500 addad 1m 5f

1.15 £2,500 addad 1m 5f
1 06000- ENGLISH INVADER (J19) (CD) C Dwyer 7 to 0 .5 Sandons 5
2 00000- HATTA SUNSHINE (J33) (C) GL Moore 8 98 ... A Clark 3
3 0580- ANLACE (J7) B Melor 96 6 3 ... M Wighten 7 V
4 58460- ALAGNA (57) S C Williams 4 8 13 ... Disco D'Neil 6 V
5 0336-5 (RAZYAN DAWM (S) (C) J Aletrust 6 8 12 ... S Whitener 8
8 0040- COASTGUARDS (ERRO (18) M Univer 5 8 3 ... J Marshall 19
8 00400- COASTGUARDS (ERRO (18) M Univer 5 8 3 ... J Marshall 19
8 00400- STRAT'S LEGACY (Z7) (CD) D Arbufrort 18 1 M Sushbarg (7) 4
10 00000- GREAT BEAR (T1) D Chapten 8 7 10 ... A McCarthy (7) 2

Affinitum weight: 73 700: True bandlesp weight: Great Bear 7et 78.
BETTING: 7-2 Krayyan Dawn, 4-1 Alagne, 5-1 Hatta Sanshine, Shuttle-cock, 6-1 English Invader, 13-2 Shaf's Legacy, 14-1 Arrisce, 20-1 Constituted Hero, Erinting, 25-1 Great Bear

1.45 RENOWN CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £3,750 added 6f

- it was his ambition to win a race with the worst horse in the yard, however had. He had an incredible eye for detail and knew all his horses inside out.

"He trained Fahal to finish fourth in the Derby, Fard and Havil to win the Middle Park and, of course, the grand old up with the inspired idea to put blinkers on Fard for the Middle Park. He was a great train-

Bob Davies, the former champion jump jockey who took out his licence in 1973 to train jumpers, said: "I rode good horses like Banlieu. Havanus and Tragus for David and rode for him until I retired in

Although power has been re-

pairs to damaged fences. Ansell

Exeter will hold an inspec- added: "Because of the state of

8 20001- MYSTICAL (35) (CD) Mrs L Subbs 494 . S Withworth 3 V
7 03- JUST SURUM (193) W G M Tuner 493 . D McGaffin (7) 10
8 0- HOLDERNESS GRE. (15) Mes J Craze 592 ... S Webster 1
8 0000- MAKE READY (109) J Neville 491 S Drowns 8
10 00005- SUPERLAO (821) (3) (0) J Brotge 690 J Claims 4
— 10 declared —
BETTING: 2-1 Ultra Boet, 5-2 Double Oscae, 3-1 Mystical, 10-1 Ivory's Grab Mire, Roffey Spitmoy, 16-1 Mire Roady, 20-1 Dark Meraca, Just Skitum, 25-1 Holdernoss Girl, Superlao

2.15 VICTORY MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN

D42- BEST OF OUR DAYS (15) C Thorract, 90 Dean McKeown 5
0004- BURNDEN DAYS (15) Mss J. Craze 9 C ... S Webster 7 B
00- UTHER PENDRAGON (108) J Bernset 9 0 N Variey 2
33366- CHKAPENHY (15) Mss J. Shabts 8 9 ... S Whitworth 3 V
MCCORD GETTED BARRY (4) D Notrobs 6 9 ... A McCholai (7) 1
00263- MSSS BANANAS (18) T BJ 8 9 ... N Cartiale 4
22- MISSED THE CUIT (\$6) R Harmon 9 9 ... Dane D Neils 6

- 7 sectored -BETTING: 5-4 Missed The Cxt, 13-8 Best Of Our Days, 11-2 Miss Ba-names, 10-1 Burden Days, 16-1 Critispermy, Gifted Neim, 25-1 Uther Pen-drapore

2.45 NELSON HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO 1m 2f

3.15 WWW.BARRYDENNIS.CO.UK H'CAP (CLASS F) (Div II) £2,500 addad 1m

3.45 REPULSE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added filles & mares 7f

termine whether Friday's course to repair them. Really, we

LUDLOW

HYPERION 1.00 Village King 3.00 Manifeno 1.30 Hurricane Lamp 3.30 Can't Say 4.00 Tim French 2.30 Wishing William (nb)

GOING: Soft (Heavy in places) GOING: Soft (Heavy in places)

■ Right-hand course. Chase course has sharper bends than hurdles course

Course is NW of town off A49 Ludiow station (Herelord - Shrewsbury line) 2m ADMISSION: Chab EH (accompaned under tis fixed). Tattersals £9 f0APs income £2 refreshment voucher! (course £5 CAR PARK: Free

■ LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 22-88 (25%) O Nicholson 18-67 (25%), K Balley (17-75 (22%)-1 Footbar 13-76 (75%) N Henderson £25 M6.2%), P Hobbs 12-66 (82%), G LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy (5-62 €25%) M A Fitzgerald 15-70 (214%), A Thornton 10-72 (133%) J R Kavanagh 9-67 (134%), S Wynne 9-85 (105%)

■ FAVOURITES: 179-445 (402%)

David Morley with Hamdan Al Maktoum, his main owner

FAVOURITES: 178-445 (42%)

[.40	CLIVE PAVILION MAIDEN HURDLE (CLAI added 2m 5f 110yds Penaity Value \$2,169	SS F) £2,400
•	3	BALKOS (11) (3 & T Facing Cub) W.G. st Turner S. D. &	J Power (7)
:	OCP/P	BELLDORAN (6) RA'S S Greathaudi T Greathead 7 11 8	G Upton
3	053	BUCKALOON (20) (A N Brooks Renkin) TV M probourns 6 11 6	R Massey (3)
4	23-352	BUILDER BOY (11) (G. J. Jones, a Brookshaw é 11 &	C Maude
5	1-4	HOLLOA AWAY (42) (IV Filed) TiForster & 11 8	S Wynes
6	- 45	KING'S BANKER (598) (JEH Colors) N Henderson T 11 5	M A Pitzgerald
7	30.64	KING OF THE BLUES (10) IN NETHINSON JAMOE 11 3	J Cutoty
e	5	MACRI WISDOM (17) (Wissord Facing Incorporated) & Base; E 1: 8	N WALESTEON
ġ	Û	MR LAMBRIM (20) (Halencoc International Ltd) Mrs L (Videorson 6 m	R Bettarry
3		MR SPECULATOR (28) (North nivorth Racing) ! Spearing 5 Ti 6	D J Kavanagh (S)
17	ISP-RI	ROSEVALLEY (B) IA J& JI Vitrong: WiPge 9 11 9	A P McCoy
4	32.	ROYAL BARGE (60) (BF) (E L rames) F Bouen 2 11 :	W Marston
ē	106.3	SAMUEL WILDERSPIN (60) (8F) (Court) Cotton C ! Servison 6 TI ?	R Johnson
•	452	VILLAGE KING (26) (Capi E J Edwards Hearrows, F Motos ! TI &	R Durrecody
E	0940	DUNRAYEN LADY (10) (Cent Brace) D Brace 6 10 3	Mass P Jones
16	0F00-3	MRYANA PRINCESS (15) (D POTITION) 6 Procee & 11 ?	J Mogford (7)
7	Ç.	CYSTER DELIGHT (283) (D N Carey) C Carey 7 7 3	Miss E J Jones (7)
18	C	RAMED TANGO (40) (A S Blackham) & Cambdge 4 19 3 - 18 declared -	Gary Lyons

loge King, 10-1 Maon Wisdom. Rosevalley, 14-1 Royal Barge, 16-1 Ballot, Buckhouse, 20-1 Dun reven Larly, 33-1 others 1997: No corresponding race

FORM GUIDE

Useful bumper winner SAMUEL WILDERSPIM went of: at 11-4 on for his building bow Useful tramper winner SAMUEL WILDERSPIM went oft at mile on to the hurding bow at Chefterham towards the end of October but could fresh only than befind Bowing Rock naving broken a blood vessel Provided he remains problem-free he should open his hurding account this time. He might have most to fear from Burider Boy, a mauden point-to-points who put up his best display from three runs over timber fast line when a four-length runner-up befind Shore Parry at Herisford Village King, trained by Richard Hampin on the Flet, changed hands for 2000gris in 1995 and was placed for the first line in three starts over timber when change home. Grey Shot, albeit at 23 lengths, at Taurton tast time, Hotloa Away, winner of a 17-runner Wortzester bumper on his sample start last term, will have come on his the expensive following its 20-length hurding-bow fourth behind Pekay at Worcester in November.

Selection: SAMUEL WILDERSPIN 1 20 NEW YEAR NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m

l		1.30	Panalty Valua £2,788	
ı			CLIFTON BEAT (USA) (39) (D) (D 3 () Corror) F Hoxos 7 11 5	R Dummood
j	ż	2F-6U	HURPICANE LAMP (10) IDI (BF) (Mrs F Wath & F Sers) D Nothison ?	n 5 A Thomto
ı	3	030P4	INTERNACEC (249) (DI () (Fa) JF> 8 Ti 5	SFo
ł	4	203	SIBANDRA (34) (Corne farth) P.R. Webber 9 II 5	J A McCarth
ı	5	(223F6)	SMPLE ARITHMETIC (724) (D) (BF) IMIS MINITE; I & SALLEY 10 11 5	N Waterreo
ı	6	300 F	STORM DAMAGE (38) (D) (BF) (Some Damage Partners to P Notices 6	112 T D WOLDS
ı			- 6 declared -	Tition Part 14

1997. No corresponding races

FOR M GUIDE

HURRICANE LAMP won two hurdle races in 1996-97—it would have been three had he not fellen when leading at the hirst fight at Sandown in March. Appearing for the first time since when thrown in at the deep end for his chasing bow in Direct Bouries race at Sandown in December he showed promise atthough last of six. Hurricane Lamp was a hopped at Remption only to blunder and uriship Adrian Magure at the second having pecked at the first. Storm Damage, tarourite at Newborry on his test appearance over lences he based to survive the fifth tence but might provide most danger with a trouble-free round. Chasing recruit Cliftion Beart operated in for a wind problem lest season rain well when fourth of 18 to Shanker at Ammee in February and he was shouldering Ust when last of seven behind Stormyfar-weether at Newbury in November on his return. Simple Arithmetic, a two-length third to Tourst Attraction of the 1995 Supreme Novices Hustle at the Cheterham Festival, took the same year However, he has not been out since linishing such behind Libber The Kibber at Warnkok in 1996.

Selection: Historicane Lamp

FORM GUIDE

1 2010- ITSINTHEP 2 42451- KALIMAT (3 3 30550- ENCHANT) 4 12353- DAYS RDC 5 22504- MATCAKA 6 54501- DUST (50) 7 00800- FANCY DES	fillies & mares 7f OST (16) (C) (D) (EP) V Scare 5 to 0F Norton 9 IS) (C) W James 4 9 12	Sandown in December he showed promise atthough tast of six. If hotpot at Kampton only to blunder and unship Adman Magure at their sail the tist. Storm Damage: tarourine at Newbory on the test along he tased to survive the fifth sence but might provide most damage with Chasing recruit Cliffon Beat operated on for a wind proton less fourth of 18 to Shanker at Amiree in February and he was shoulde seven behind Stormyfar weather at Newbury in November on his metic, a teo-length find to Tourid Attraction in the 1995 Supreme I Chettenham Festival, took the same placing behind Centarity Strom at Sandown at the end of the same year. However, he has not best such behind Jibber The Kibber at Warwick in 1996. Selection	earance over lends his trouble-free rout season ran well white region Simple Arit Novices Hurdle all ti gion his chasing be en out since limshe his Hurdle All ti his Hurdle A
Minutem weight 7st 100	- 8 declared - 10. True handicap weight: Alksars Dancer 7st 8th Davis Rock, 8-1 Kallerst, Matocks, 11-2 Itsirishe- 10-1 Allstars Dences, 20-1 Enchanting Evr., 33-1	2.00 LEINTWARDINE SELLING HURDLE (CL added 2m Penaity Value \$1,509 1 40.09 LANCER NISA (18) IA C W Proce R. Autor 6 in 9 2 Proce AETRAL VIEW (54) IE Goody W G M Turner 7 in 3 3 00.000 BARILEY MEADOW (61) Kidny Roberts J C Shee 6 in 3 4 00 BEAR HUG (15) R. Arrest M Steppuro 5 in 2 5 PR CROAGEM PATRICK (6) (Wis J A Cleavy J Fee 6 in 3	ASS G) £2,00 Mr O McPhall (7) R Danwood A Scholes (5 Curre S Fo
HWELL RE MAGIC (J Farming) rt 14 fay, 3. Alfanson's r, 2. (D Shaw, Newark) 110, 5230. DF: £1280. 330	2.45: 1. NOUFARI (F Lynch) 12-1: 2. Course Fishing 4-1: 3. Indigo Dawn 3-1 fax 12 ran. 3.21 (F Holinshead, Upper Longdon). Tota: 21:30; 25:60, 12:00. 51:30 DF: 22:50. CSF: 25:00.6 Tricast: 5175:48. Tho: 23:50.	5 0000-0 MAZIFAH (22) (Mchael Applety) 9 Corte 7 m 3 7 6P0-52 ROYAL THEN (FR) (8) (8F) if A Nachworth J Neville 5 m 7 8 5CU3/ SAATCHNO (578) uf Spearing J Spearing 6 m 9 9 (5024 AMONG ISLANDS (18) if A Fusices if Lee 7 m 0 10 60-PSP VITA NUOVA (7) (The Storom Sected Mrs CHots 7 m 0 NATTIE (F104) (Gerat IDCOMENT SIGH A BERTON 4 10 5 17 F00 GABOVA (FR) (20) (8F) (Marto Pice Racing Cate 1 M Pice 2 is 0 18 PP SUN FAIRY (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 19 SUN FAIRY (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 11 3 Color (18) (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 11 3 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 11 3 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 11 3 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 11 3 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 11 3 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 11 3 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 11 3 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 11 3 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 12 5 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 13 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 14 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 15 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 15 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 16 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 17 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Discorde 4 10 0 18 Color (18) IT G Brosses 1 Dis	J Leed A P McCoy Miss C Speering (7) Mi S Durack () V State T Descome C Macco D J Burche

1997: No corresponding race

THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS 981 LUDLOW 972 982 LINGFIELD

COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970 Calls coal 50p per ministe: T.L.S. plc, Scrutton 9: 6(2A 4P) SOUTHWELL

\$\text{5QUTHWELL}\$

12.45: 1. ThEATRE MAGIC (J Farming)
4-1: 2. Yeoman Officer 11-4 Ear; 3. ABinson's
Mate 5-1. 11 ren. 11/h, 2 (D Shew, Newark).
Tothe: 54.50: 52.20, 51.00, \$2.30. DF: \$12.50.
\$1.15: 1. CRUZ SANTA (Clare Lund)
12-1: 2. Poeie Chelin 9-4; 3. Diunston
12-1: 2. Poeie Chelin 9-4; 3. Diunston
11/h. (M Chapman, Market Rassen). Tota:
\$23.40; \$2.20, \$5.30, \$4.90, DF: \$4.310, CSF:
\$24.67; \$2.20, \$5.30, \$4.90, DF: \$4.310, CSF:
\$24.67; \$2.20, \$5.30, \$4.90, DF: \$4.310, CSF:

22340; 5520; C130; R490; DF; R4311; C5F; 24067. This: 59400; 1.48; 1. MR/TAHADETH (A McCarthy) 7-1; 2. Roboffion 4-1; 3. Bold Aristocras 4-1 to ren. 7-2 fav Museph HB Lad (Brit), 6. nk; (0) Shaw, Newerld, Tota: 5980; 5280, E10; 5230; DF; 51220; C5F; 51360; Tho: 52450; DF; 51220; C5F; 51360; Tho: 52450; DF; 51220; C5F; 51360; Tho: 52450; DF; 5130; C5F; 5130; C5F

23650.
3.15: 1. SHARWAY LADY IJ Branthii)
12-1; 2. Mary Lou 4-1; 3. Sharp Monkey
10-1, 11 ran. 5-4 fav Falkenberg (6th) 2°°.
'h. (8 McMaho, Tamworth). Tote: £1650:
£250, £230, £310 DF: £2390. CSF: £5100.
The: £252.20 This: £135.20. 3.45: 1. DANCING RIO (L. Chamock) 8-1;

3.45: 1. DANCING RIO II. Charnots, 8-1: 2. Technician 5-1: 3. Jockweller 14-1. 9 ran. 4-1. § ran. 4-1. § ran. 5tar (sth), Accystan. 37. 6. (P Hastam, Mcdieham). Tota: €12-50. €3.0. €190. €190. OF: £2500. CSF: £46-71. Theast £271.5. The £110. Jackpot: not won (pool of £41570.71 carried forward to Lungfield today). Placepot: £565.20. Quadpot: £3730. Place 8: £33.34. Place 5: £5770.

2.30	TENBURY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3m Penalty Value £2,944
	MEMILIN'S LAD (810) (D) (H Messer-Bennetts) T Forster 9 ft 10 Cullidy
	SELATAN (11) (D) (Starlight Racing) D Gendoto 6 to to
	WISHING WILLIAM (28) (D) (Executive Pacing Club) Mass H kuncht 6 to 9 J F Titley
	SHAMBA HELLS (21) (Mrs K.A. Steart) G. McCourt 10 10 7
	COOL RUNNER (16) (Gerard Nock) Mrs S Nock 8 10 6
TTING: 1	1-8 Wishing Wittiam, 11-4 Merlin's Lad, 7-2 Seletan, 6-1 Shimba Hills, 8-1 Cool Runner
	ral Vintage 7 Tl 5 N Williamson 7-2 (Wass V Williams) 8 ran

FORM GUIDE FORM GUIDE
It is good to see Meritins Laid beck in business for the first time since he was completing a hist-inch when scotting at Easter 5t0 days ago but he taces a lough test conceding Kib to the progressive WISHING WILLIAM, Unplaced in a bumper on his single start last term. Hennetta Kinghits charge is unbeation after two chases, both on the soft at Plumpton. Selation, who landed a three-mile handicap hurdle under 12st at Bangor in March, goes off a stone lower mark here after being beatien miles in both his chases at the same course and at Hurstingdon. Richard Durwoody tode him for his win and is back on board for the first time since.

Selection: WISHING WILLIAM 13 00 H.B.L.B. NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) 52,900

2.00	added 2m Penalty Valua £2,257	ı
311	EFFECTUAL (8) (B C Dice) Miss V Williams 5 12 3 (7ex) S Kally (7)	١.
ŒΠ	MANULENO (8) (Surart M Mercer) M Pice 4 11 1	Ι.
35/F0	KATIE'S JOKER [47] (J Russell) O O'Nell 12 to 10 V Stattary	Ι.
6-4533	BLAZE DF SONG (11) (D Baccock (D Wintle 6 10 8	ı
	MOOR HALL LADY (327) (R S Brookhouse) A Carrol 7 to 6	
	B MY LOVELY (615) (Michael J Brown) C O'Neil 6 10 0	
50P00F	CAKNONT (15) (Smon Gegg) M Sheppard 5 10 0	I -
	- 7 declared -	

— 4 colours o — Ministrum weight. 19st True handicap weights. 8 My Lovely 8st 9tb. Celimont 9st 9tb BETTING: 10-11 Maniteno, 13-8 Effectual. 12-1 Moor Half Lady, 14-1 Blaze Of Song, 25-1 Katters Joker, 33-1 others 1997: No corresponding race

FORM GUIDE
Effectual has not looked back since his third to Truchev on his debut at Exister – scoring by a distance at Newton Abbot and by seven lengths at Taunton. However, he is on 12st 3tb and MANILENO is preferred getting 15tb. Maniferior, hat-brother to one-time useful huider Manotete chalked up a hat-trick last year after joining Martin Pipe from James Hether for and has won three of his four races over brober, the taxest by hee lengths from Alka; international at Jaunton. And he defeated better fanced stablemate Miss Ondee
eight lengths at Market Rasen four weeks back on his first appearance since August.
Pick at the others could be Blaze Of Song, third in his last two outings - behind Ams
Son II at Towcester and Studio Thirty at Huntingdon. Selection: MANILENO
3.30 JANUARY NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £2,601
1 (3-23) NOW WE KNOW (17) IR Herbert, T Daisey) M Shepperd 10 ff 10 Mr S Durack (5)
2 P+OF GRANHAM PRIDE (18) (I M S Racing) K Bailey 6 11 7
3 /302/2 RAGARDFF (17) (BF) (Mrs P G Williams) P Hooles 7 71 3 R Durnwoody
4 +5045 ALDINGTON CHAPPLE (15) (M Kierman) T Wall 10 10 10
5 5P6P6- CARLINGFORD GALE (230) (Mrs Alson Gamble) T George 7 to 10 R Johnson
6 35P-PU WORTHY MEMORIES (5) (Mrs E M Sousquet-Payne) Mrs M Jones 9 10 9 D Byrne
7 324312 CAN'T SAY (11) (M & Carver) J M Bradley 6 10 9
8 50/PP LISAHANE DATS (5) LI J Whelan) A Barrow 8 10 8 T Descombe
9 2PP-0 KARICLEIGH MAN (31) (HR C Catherwood) P Hobbs 8 10 6 G Tormey
10 UOSIP. SEBASTOPOL (252) (Demok Page) P Murphy 9 102
TI DP. T-P DAWN INVADER (47) (D) (D J Caro) D Caro 7 10 0 J R Kirvings
12 OFOPU SOPHIES DREAM (39) (W.E. Jones) J.M. Bradey 7 100
13 06F5/5 COMPUTERAID LADY (68) (M O'Bnen) R Curas 8 100 Laech
и co-PFP SHEET UGHTNENG (16) (Denns Deacon) A Cerrol 6 100
5 4/FO.P CHERRY ORCHID (29) (J.L. Needham) J.R. Hughes 11 100

BETTING: 5-2 Regament, 4-1 Cent Sey, 9-2 Grandum Pride, 6-1 New We Know, 16-1 Kericleigh Man, 12-1 Worthy Memories, 14-1 Certingford Gale, Sebastopol, 16-1 Aldington Chapple, Computeraid Lady, 25-1 Dawn Invader, 33-1 others

1997: No corresponding race	1
FORM GUIDE	1
GRANHAM PRIDE, who has had very little rearrig since making a winning start in a bumper on soft ground at Newton Abbor in the 1995-99 seeson. Now an eight-year-old, Granham Pride lasted to get round in a three-mile nowces' handicap at Uttowere lest time on only has second start over tences but at least figured far more prominently than his first attempt He led for the second time at the 11th until the fifth last, coming down when on the retireal at the next, but he will be straighter still this time and the shorter trip should help Ragamust has put together three good runs over tences and might have beaten then Mood at Universer 17 days ago if he had not hit the test. His turn is near and he is then no occur to the straighter of the had not hit the test. His turn is near and he is then to go close Testing conditions allowed Cam't Sary to get home over two miles in the studge at Lingfield before Crinismas and he ran another fair race against previous winner Winnow at Hereford on Boaring Day. The youngster is admirably consistent and should be in the money yet again. Former point-to-pointer Now We Know has had just the one run over tences this season as opposed to two over hundles and found even these easy tences more than a match when runner-up to Boro Hill over three miles here last month. This slower ground might help.	
4.00 WIGMORE INTERMEDIATE OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500 addad 2m Penalty Value £1,298	
n) 11,500 addad 2m renary value £1,298	

4	.00	H) £1,500 addad 2m Penalty Value £1,298
		HANCOTA PILILISE (LOCCO) W. LING A CARTEL S. 71 4
		COXWELL COSSACK (Mrs P A Alsopo) Mss H Knight 5 11 4
	0	MOTPULITY E LUCKY C HERSIN 5 TL 4 Miles A Pauline FR
		INCOPARE HOURDALION LINE PROTE FOUNDATION SUbdivision Service
	3	LIUEPIA (28) (MTS PAVAX SERROROM) I GEORGE E TI 6
	4-150	OUDA'S CHAPEL (17) (Dead A Hunt) M Shereward 5 to 4 T Decearate 1
	3	Tist FRENCH (32) (P Henley) K Balley 8 n 4
		WELDUNFRANK (P M NCCOTTRICK) W M Brisbourne S 11 4
	D-	BRUNIDA (248) (Ms M E Ash (P Hobbs 6 10 13 G Torroy
n	0	CRUME STOPPER (17) Clorn Pointon and Sons) Miss S Wilton 5 to 13 B Powell
	٠	CHACKER II DOLLY Abote. Broker & Course & Chacker & Chac
		GRACEFUL DOLLY (Hydro - Brake) A Streeter 5 10 13
		MELOUY PRINCESS (Frank Clarke) O O'Mail 5 to 13
•	·	PRINCESS MELEN (245) (A Shekts) R J Price S 10 G
		SUUPRINA (Edde Glovne) II Gurtis 5 10 13
,	٥	INDUAN LOVE (45) (5 6 Griffiths) S Griffiths 5 10 18 Mr R Waldev (5)
5		C'EST MOI LAUREL (FR) (Robert Ogden) Miss V Williams 4 10 7 N Williamson
		- 16 declared -
Εľ	TING:	9-4 Tm French 7-0 Vicing 4-1 CTest Mail areal 5-1 Consul Courses 6-1 Speechs

- 13 declares -BETTING: 9-4 Among Islands, 3-1 Aerial View, 7-2 Royal Theri, 13-2 Lancer 10-1 Gabova. Mezi-BETTING: 9-4 Ten French, 7-2 L'Idefo, 4-1 C'Est Mol Leurel, 5-1 Coopell Cossack, 8-1 Banaha House, 12-1 Brunida, 16-1 Inspire Foundation, Odda's Chapel, 20-1 Graceful Dolly, Princess Heme, 25-1 others

len. Scoptime, 25-1 others

1997: Mourtain Storm 5 to 12 T Hagger (7) 4-1 (N Henderson) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

Hennetta Knight can usually be relied upon to come up with a decent bumper, but newcomer Coxwell Cossack might have to be e bit special to cope with L'ideffix and TIM

FRENCH. The Buckskin gelong Lidefix belied his big odds with a promising third bemid the well-thought-ol Billy Box in a large field here last morth on his introduction. He
will not be too difficult to place. Ten Franch's debut was just as pleasing, even if he was

peaten in lengths when chasing home Kadou Nonantais at Hereford. He stayed on well

in the closing stages efter being held up and the winter has shown the form to be useful by going on to trot up over hurdles. C'Est Mol Laurel and Banaha House are wellbred debutants worth keeping on eye on. FORM GUIDE

AERIAL VIEW pulled too hard when unplaced to Two To Tango in a non-sellar at Tauriton last time and had earlier run Northern Daums to a tength at the same track. Archard Dunwoody lighes the mount this time and Bio Tisner's charge tooks good enough. Royal Then finished a neck runnerup behard Addow at Frontwell text week, with the third seven lengths finished a neck runnerup behard Addow at Frontwell text week, with the third seven lengths given That was only his second race his season and theire should be a tril behar to come, but he may again have to sultin second best Among Islands' last three races have all been over course and distance. Recruit Lees materinas foll may was a non-sellar and set annotation to the course and distance of the course while she was she earlier timished a length and-a-half numer up behard threaton Concer while she was she earlier timished a length and-a-half numer up behard threaton Concer while she was she earlier timished a length and-a-half numer up behard threaton. Selection: AEFIAL VIEW stop second before that to Taled Stab bearen with lengths. Selection: AEFIAL VIEW

brings more misery for Chiefs' chief Marty Schottenheimer's reputation as an outstanding coach

in the regular season who is unahle to guide a franchise to the Super Bowl was further enhanced on Sunday night when his Kansas City Chiefs team were surprisingly beaten at home by the Denver Broncos in the NFL play-offs.

Having won all eight of their games at Arrowbead Stadium this season, and their last six matches of the regular season, the Chiefs were expected to overcome their divisional rivals. Instead, the Broncos prevailed 14-10, with their quarterback John Elway once again Schottenheimer's nemesis.

Elway threw for 170 yards and orchestrated the gamewinning drive when they fell 10-7 behind in the third quarter. The key play was his 43-yard pass to Ed McCaffrey which took the Broncos to the Chiefs one-vard line. Three plays later Terrell Davis went over for the winning score, his second touchdown of the game.

Elway has frequently thwarted Schottenheimer in the : play-offs, most famously in 1986 when he beat Schottenheimer's previous team, the Cleveland Browns, in a match that has entered NFL folklore thanks to a 98-yard series in the closing minutes known as "The Drive".

"I don't play Marty Schottenheimer, I play other great teams," Elway said. "He's a great football coach. He always has his teams ready to play and we're just fortunate that we came out on the right end today."

"This is hard to take but it isn't about John Elway," said Schottenheimer, whose record in the play-offs now stands at 5-11. "I'm disappointed. I told our football team that I have no words of wisdom that are meaningful to them at this point. Without a doubt, the men in that room gave everything to this organisation that one could ever ask."

The Chiefs had taken a 10-7 lead in the third quarter, thanks to a 20-yard field goal from Pete Stoyanovich and a 12yard touchdown pass from Elvis Grbac to the tight end Tony Gonzalez, who was alone in the back of the end zone.

Grbac completed 24 of his 37 passes for 260 yards, including eight catches by Andre Rison for 110 yards. However the key statistic was that Davis rushed for 70 yards in the second half. having been limited to 31 in the

The Denver cornerback Darrien Gordon made two vital plays in the final quarter to deny the Chiefs, first tackling Louie Aguiar three yards shy of a first down on a fake field goal, and then deflecting the final pass from Grbae away from its intended receiver Lake Dawson in the end zone with 12 seconds

The win was especially poignant for Neil Smith, who the Chiefs decided not to retain at the end of last season and then joined the Broncos, "This is a sweet victory but this is not our goal." the defensive linemen, who had a sack and a forced fumble, said. "We have to go into another hostile environment next week and play a team that beat us very soundly [in the regular season]."

The Denver defeat marked the second time in three years that Schottenheimer's Chiefs entered the play-offs as the AFC's top seed only to lose their first match. The Broncos will meet the Steelers in Pittsburgh in next Sunday's AFC Championship game.

In the NFC Championship game later that day the San Francisco 49ers will entertain the defending Super Bowl champions, the Green Bay Packers, following the Packers' 21-7 defeat of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

● Wade Phillips was yesterday appointed the new head coach of the Buffalo Bills, following Mary Levy's retirement last week at the age of 72. Phillips, the defensive coordinator under Levy for the last three years, was head coach in Denver for two years, but was sacked after they finished the 1994 season with a 7-9 record. The Bills had 6-10 record last season. "There was talk about other [candidates]," the Bills general manager John Butler said. "Wade was the first person interviewed and the only person interviewed."

Henman opens season with swift success and avoids dawn

Tim Henman, the British No 2, opened the new tennis season last night with a straight sets victory against Javier Sanchez, of Spain in the first round of the \$1 m Qatar Mobil Open. John Roberts reports from

Last time Tim Henman won a tournament, in September, he ended up wearing local robes in Tashkent, Last night, after winning his opening match of the Frenchman be defeated in year, he settled into the black

sofa in the interview room at the Qatar Open here, comfortable in his status as a hlossoming international competitor.

Although his rival Greg Rusedski is the top seed here, Henman has a lot of ATP Tour world ranking points at stake. having finished runner-up to Jim Courier last January. Apart from a few signs of nerves during the first set, the 23-year-old from Oxford gave an assured performance in defeating Javier Sanchez, 7-5, 6-1.

Henman's second round opponent is Guillaume Raoux, the straight sets in the third round

and red fabric of a traditional of last year's Australian Open before falling to Michael Chang in the fourth round.

If Henman is successful against Raoux, he could find himself facing the wily Petr Korda in the quarter-finals. The Czech left-hander opened with a straight-sets win against Olivier Delaitre, a French qualifier. This is an unusual tourna-

ment in several respects, not least because on this occasion it happens to coincide with Ramadan. As a consequence. play does not commence until 6pm, which is all very well unless inclement weather interrupts the schedule to the extent that dawn rises.

We were lucky last night. Although rain began to fall during the opening set of Henman's maich, it was not heavy enough to drive the players off across the court. Henman, the court. Moreover, the threat refusing to be shaken, of humidity causing the court to become too slippery for play has strokes to retrieve the break and been eliminated to a large extent by the installation of double-faulted and then belted heating beneath the concrete a backhand drive over the base-

Sanchez complained once or twice about the rain, and some feature at least one loose serve deuces before luring his oppoof the line calls, but otherwise the match progressed without a hitch. Even a cat crossed the broke for 4-3, Henman netting court during the second set a forehand on the second break without delaying the proceed-

opened in threatening mood, returning Henman's serves and breaking to 30 with a backhand produced some fine groundtook a 3-1 lead after Sanchez

Henman's matches tend to game, so his supporters were not too alarmed when Sanchez point. Much of the mini-Hen- sured that the job was commania generated on the night

schoolchildren who had been given tickets by one of the local banks.

Rain began to fall Sanchez drew level at 4-4, by which time Henman had recovered his composure and was hitting the more potent shots again. He required three hreak points in the 12th game to deny Sanchez the possibility of a tiebreak, fighting through six nent into over-hitting a forehand and missing with a smash.

The first set took 48 minutes. Henman's determination enshots with such confidence that Sanchez was 5-0 down before he was able to make a response, winning a game while Henman wound up to sign off for the night, finishing with an ace.

Korda was already back at his. hotel, planning today's training drops since the US Open." schedule and leaving ample time to relax with his wife and daughter. Korda is breathing easier literally as well as figuratively since undergoing an operation to unblock his sinuses.

cost Korda dearly at the United States Open, it may be repleted with a minimum of fuss retire against Jonas Bjorkman

The 29-year-old Sanchez emanated from a group of and effort. He directed his after he had defeated Pete Sampras in the fourth round.

It was a much higger operation than I thought," Korda said, "and I won't fully recover for about half a year. But I have no problems breathing. and I haven't had to use nose

 Bjorn Borg secretly received \$220,000 (£132,000) to play on Sweden's Davis Cup teams in 1978 and 1979, Swedish national television reported yesterday. 'It was necessary that we have Difficulty with his breathing Bjorn Borg in Davis Cup matches. Public opinion demanded it," said Peter Wallenmemhered, causing him to herg, then chairman of the Swedish tennis federation.

Last link with the days of chiffon and cognac

Helen Wills Moody, who died last week at the age of 92, was the final link with one of the most remarkable eras in the history of women's tennis, the years between the two World Wars, when the attractive Californian followed the charismatic Suzanne Lenglen on to Wimbledon's Centre Court.

On Saturday, 2 July, 1938, Helen Wills Moody, aged 32, won an eighth Wimbledon singles title in ber last match at the at the All England Club, defeating Helen Jacohs, an American compatriot, 6-4, 6-0. Two days later, it was announced that Suzanne Lenglen, the Frenchwoman whose flamboyani style played a large part in glamorising the sport, had died of leukemia in Paris, aged 39.

By all accounts, these great players had little in common, with the exception of the supreme quality of their tennis. The way they presented themselves on the court exemplified contrasts in personality. Wills Moody, "Miss Poker face", partly concealed her heauty utation by winning the United beneath an eye-shade and favoured a cerise cardigan and the modest starched cotton tennis outfits of the period. The theatrical Lenglen flaunted silk chiffon bandeaux, usually making her entrance wearing a long white coat with white fur collar and fur cuffs, which would be removed to reveal a silk, kneelength dress. The accessories included a silver flask of cognac to help revive her, particularly on those rare occasions when

one of her matches raised mo- driven, by her father, the enments of crisis.

Lenglen and Wills Moody could not be said to be rivals in the practical sense. During the two years in which their careers coincided, from 1924 to 1926, they were in opposition only three times - once in singles, once in doubles and once in mixed doubles, with Lenglen victorious each time.

The one singles contest between Lenglen and Wills, as she was then, was hailed at the time as the start of a long series of exciting duels which would decide whether the power in the women's game remained in France, or would be transferred to the United States. Fate was to decree that Lenglen would have no further say in the

Wills, accompanied by her mother, arrived in France in

BY JOHN **ROBERTS**

January, 1926, planning to play nine weeks of singles and doubles on the Riviera. The American was 20, and she had already established an impressive rep-States singles championship

Lenglen, three months from her 27th birthday, was idolised. Since 1919, when she saved two match points in the Challenge Round at Wimbledon to defeat Dorothea Lambert Chambers (née Douglass), the seven-times pre-World War I champion from Middlesex, La Grande Suzanne had remained

trepreneurial "Papa Charles". Lenglen had won Wimbledon six times, losing only two sets (one in 1919, to Lambert Chambers, the other, in 1924, to the American Elizaheth

The Carlion Club, in Cannes, was the scene of the match between Lenglen and Wills on 16 Fehruary, 1926, and it seemed that the rest of the world, or at least its newspaper representatives, were in attendance. Papa Lenglen was a notable absentee, unable to take his customary seat close to the court because of illness.

Lenglen won the opening set, 6-3, in 25 minutes, taking sips of cognac during each change of ends. The sips became swigs between every game as the second set became arduous for the Frenchwoman. whose distress was also signified by much coughing and heartclutching.

Wills was unable to capitalise on a 3-1 lead, though some dubious calls did not help her as she strove in vain to lake the match into a third set. One call denied Wills a point for 5-3, another, with Lenglen serving at 6-5, 40-15, appeared to have ended the contest. The players shook hands at the net as the umpire announced game, set and match.

There was a bizarre twist when the line tieen called out by someone in 6-3, 8-6, and collapsed, subbing. the crowd, and that be had seen the ball in. It was decided that found a husband. As she stood play would resume, at 6-5, alone, almost hidden by the 40-30. Lenglen lost the game. She reached match point again, stacks of flowers surrounding at 7-6, 40-15, at which point a her emotional opponent, a double-fault was called against young man she had noticed on her, an occurrence so unusual her first day in Cannes arrived unbeaten except for retirements that even the most meticulous at her side and said: "You through illness. Guided, or statisticians were hard pressed played awfully well." He was niously. There was a misun-

informed the Frenchwoman produced

Wills lost the match but frenzied spectators and the

to recall the last occasion that Frederick Moody, a stockbro- derstanding with the referee, ond Wimbledon singles title, the making her first visit to the All Lenglen was penalised on serve. ker from San Francisco. They Frank Burrow, concerning the first having been accomplished England Club. She recovered The game went to deuce before were married in California in time Lenglen should play. in 1924, under her maiden from 1-3 to win the opening set 1929. Divorce followed and, in the umpire that Wills' shot had successive winners for victory. 1939, Wills married Aidan to helieve that Lenglen had Roark, a screen writer, in Las

Cannes, 1926: Helen Wills (right) congratulates Suzanne Lengten after the only singles game between the two legends

Lengleo remained unmarried in spite of numerous romances. She went on to win the French Championship for a sixth time in 1926, for the loss of four games in five rounds, before her association with Wimbledon ended acrimo-

This, in turn, led the spectators snubbed Queen Mary, who had come to watch. The Frenchwoman forfeited her third-round match, swept out of Wimbledon and turned her

back on the amateur game. An immediate beneficiary was Kitty Godfrey, the British player, who defeated Lili de Alvarez, of Spain, to win the 1926 final It was the Londoner's sec-

After losing to Lenglen three times, in the quarter-finals in 1919, in the second round in in 1922 and in the final in 1923, McKane had a walk-over when illness ("the aftermath of jaundice") caused the Frenchwoman to scratch from the 1924 semi-final. So McKane advanced to meet

Wills in the final. The American was 18 and

convert the opportunity to go 5-1 ahead in the second set. McKane saved the game and won the next four to level. The Briton then dominated the net to take the title, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

It was the only match Wills ever lost at Wimbledon. Her record eight singles championships stood for 52 years until broken by Martina Navratilova

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Af quashes Briti

12.11

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ICE HOCKEY

Ayr steel a march on title rivals

The Superleague is shaping up for a thrilling finale with seven weeks of the season proper remaining and eight teams in with a realistic chance of winning the title. Just seven points separates them.

Ayr - the Benson and Hedges Cup winners and runaway leaders of The Express Cup - are still the team to catch, after coming from behind to win 5-4 and seriously dent the hopes of last season's play-off champions, Sheffield Steelers.

Steelers, who had Scott Allison dismissed for a high-sticking offence in the first period, led 2-0 and 4-3 hut lost at home for the third successive game surrendering the points to final session markers from Sam Groleau and Danuse Bauba.

Meanwhile, Nostingham Panthers moved above Manchester Storm by heating their season for Slough on Sunday in rivals 5-3 in front of a 10,336 Nynex crowd. Storm led early : Paince, has been selected by the on through Stefan Ketola's goal hut Nottingham - still missing four key men because of injury - hit back strongly to lead 4-1 in the 36th minute, with three of the goals powerplays.

Although Dale Jago (powerplay) and Brad Rubachuk brought Manchester back into the game, they could not find an equaliser in a frantic climax and Derek Laxdal's empty net goal five seconds from the end fin- Robertson, a fifth Slough playished them off.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Bronco's Sailor expected to berth at Wigan

Wigan are set to sign the Bris- said: "It is a big one and we have bane and Australia wing or a handshake. full-back, Wendell Sailor, in one of the higgest international transfers the game has seen.

The club has scheduled a press conference for this afternoon, at which it is intended to unveil the recruitment of one of the world's most exciting players for the 1999 season onwards.

The 23-year-old Sailor has one year left on his contract with the Broncos, hut is in Britain negotiating a deal to follow on

The Wigan chairman, Mike

Sam Wright, who played her

first competitive hockey of the

the Indoor League at Crystal

national indoor coach, Pete

Atwell, for England's team to

defend their European title in

Orense, Spain, over the week-

ers from the Slough club - Sue

Knight, Mandy Nicholls and Sue

Chandler are also included in

the squad - who were in the

team that won the gold medal

in Scotland in 1995. Julia

Wright is one of four play-

end of 23-25 January.

er, is also named.

Central Park. The cluh's international quobe a vacancy when Henry Paul

Wright is England's most senior

player, having made 28 ap-

pearances. The 30-year-old's

ances of no more than six min-

utes each in Slough's two games

Slough players, only Hightown's

Michelle Liptrot, with two pre-

vious appearances, has played at

senior indoor level. England's

prospects will almost certainly

rest on the corner-taking of

training squad, the third goal-

From those in the original

Denise Marston-Smith.

With the exception of the

Wright named in England indoor side

at Crystal Palace.

point their former player Phil Sailor, who has won six caps Clarke as chief executive, refor Australia - including all placing Dave Bradshaw, who is three Tests in last November's series in Britain - will represent a major outlay for Wigan at a included 16 caps for Great time when a salary cap is due Britain, ended in 1996, when he to come into force. The cluh is fractured neck vertebrae playgetting financial help from the ing for Sydney City in Australia. sports company, JJB, whose but he is still only 26. remark- because of doubts over whether chairman, Dave Whelan, is the ally young for such a role. there would be a club to fulfil new power behind the throne at Clarke could be in his new job

Wigan are also poised to ap-

Warrington have completed ta is currently full, but there will the signing of Brendon Tuuta from Castleford and have also Nolan, would not confirm the comes off the quota with a res- enlisted his former team-mate, identity of the new signing, but idential qualification next year. the winger Jason Roach.

tishead's two 16-year-olds, Dan-

Lithuania and Slovakia com-

fortunate to avoid Germany

and Spain. Scotland, who an-

end, are also handicapped by

the training trip of their World

Cup squad to San Diego.

ENGLAND SQUAD (European Indoor Championship, Spain, 21-25 Jan): S Chandler, a Knight, M Nichels, J Robertson, S Wright (at South), J Green, K Roberts (Cheinstord), M Lightol, O Marstonshibt, K Walsh (Rightown), I Paimer (Colwal), H Richardson (Sherwood).

Cup squad away in Australia, has been omitted, as have Por-

selection follows hrief appear- the same pool as Scotland with

Oldham Bears, will travel to Widnes in the third round of the being offered severance terms. Silk Cut Challenge Cup, if they Clarke's playing career, which can first beat the amateurs of Heworth in an extra qualifying match at Boundary Park on 18 January. Oldham were originally omitted from the draw, the fixture, but were added after several amateur sides volunteered to meet them.

In a draw which otherwise keeps amateur and professional clubs apart, the minnows with the best chance of going through

Oldham, the club set up in are West Hull-victors over both the wake of the collapse of the Highfield and York in the 1996 competition - who go to Preston to play Lancashire Lynx. The Rugby League Profes-

sional Players' Association is challenging the right of three Australian players to work permits for the coming season. The association believes that the Hunter Mariners half-back, Craig Kimmorley, who is due to join Hull Des Clark, the Gold Coast forward who has signed for Halifax, and Shane Wilson, who is earmarked to join Widnes from South Sydney, all failed to make enough first-team appearances last year 10 qualify.



Clarke: Key role at Wigan

BASKETBALL

Nemeth in line for Storm coaching role

England's Hungarian coach, Laszlo Nemeth, to fill the gap ny Barnes and Kathryn Bache. left by Steve Tucker's return to England, although drawn in . America last week.

Nemeth watched the Budweiser League side's 73-71 win pleting the pool, have been over Chester Jets on Saturday - their first victory in five games - under stand-in coach Jeff nounce their squad next week- Jones, who had been replaced by Tucker during the summer hut stepped in again last week.

The club confirmed their discussions with Nemeth, who is currently steering the national men's team through their European Championship semi-- Bill Colvill final round programme, and championship programme in

With the England World keeper, Slough's Beccy Frater, Derby Storm have turned to with his employers, the English Baskethall Association.

A cluh spokesman said: "A number of contractual and legal conditions need to be addressed before a firm appointment can be made.

The situation is being handled with the full support of the association and will not compromise the coach's national schedules or dulies, which take

Although Nemeth has a work permit for his role with the association, he will need another to coach at club level.

England opened their

November with victory in Den-Spain and the Ukraine and are now long-shots to take one of the two guaranteed qualifying . I knew, she'd fallen." places for the 1999 finals in France. England are away to Belarus and at home to Israel next month, with the five re-

Jones expects to be in charge for Derby's home game against Woking Bears on Thursday, and said: "I'm happy to carry on in this role as long as necessary and to help out in the future if

turn fixtures to be held next

that's what they want."

Richard Taylor

SKIING

Unstoppable **Nowen knows** no bounds

Sweden's Ylva Nowen celebrated her 28th birthday yesterday by winning her fourth consecutive women's World Cup slaiom. Nowen, who had not captured a race before this season despite seven years on the circuit, won in a combined time of 1 min 27.81 sec after Urska Hrovat, of Slovenia, crashed out on the second leg

at Bormio in Italy. The two had been tied after the first run and were also level at the first split time of the second, with Hrovat following Nowen down the course. However, the Slovenian, pushing hard for her third podium finisb of the season, leant heavily into a gate in sight of the finish line and slid out.

When I saw Hrovat was level at the intermediate time I mark, but then lost at home to : thought she'd beat me," Nowen said. "I don't know where she went wrong hut, the next thing

> Nowen put her fourth straight victory down to growing self confidence and opti-

> mum piste conditions. "The snow was just perfect today, especially on the first run. I was fortunate to start third when the conditions really

couldn't have been better." Germany's Hilde Gerg took second place with 1:28.53 after a fine performance on the low-

er part of the second run. Results, Digest, page 27

Warne claims his 300th Test wicket

South Africa 287 and 113 Australia 421

Australia win by an innings and

Shane Warne became the 13th bowler to claim 300 Test wickets when he bowled Australia to an innings victory over South Africa in the second Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground yesterday.

"I set myself a goal before the start of the series," Warne said. "300 was the mark. To get there I had to bowl well and it will also help us to win the two series this season."

The leg-spinner took 6 for 34 for match figures of 11 for 109 as South Africa were bowled out for 113 in their second innings, falling 21 runs short of making Australia bat again. After rain interruptions, Paul Reiffel had Allan Donald caught behind more than an hour after the scheduled end to the day's play to complete hreak. the victory under lights.

wicket when a leg-break beat the defence of Jacques Kallis to hit the off stump. It completed Warne's 14th five-wicket haul in an innings and his fourth 10-wicket match since his debut against India in Sydney six years ago.

THE 300 CLUB

Wids Player	Tests Ave
434 Kapil Dev (Ind)	131 2964
431 Richard Hadlee (NZ)	86 2229
383 Ian Bothem (Eng)	102 2840
376 Malcolm Marshall (W	7) 81 20.94
362 Invan Khan (Pak)	88 22.81
355 Dennia Lillee (Aus)	70 23.92
353 Courtney Walsh (WI)	88 25.80
334 Wasim Akram (Pak)	77 22:30
325 Bob Willis (Eng)	90 25.20
309 Lance Gibbs (WI)	79 2908
309 Curtly Ambrose (WI)	74 21.08
307 Fred Trueman (Eng)	67 2157
300 Shane Warne (Aus)	63 2350

After the new-hall pair of Reiffel and Glenn McGrath had claimed the two openers, Warne claimed his victims with his stock delivery - the leg

The turning point of the

England's tours hit by rain and strain

yesterday were washed away by the sudden end to Antigua's Cricket Centre, which is being overseen by Viv Richards along with the former MCC secretary, Lt Col John Stephenson. England did manage to fit in a run, swim and a little beach cricket. More rain was forecast for today, and showers are expected tomorrow and Thursday.

On the England A tour, out of the three-day match with Kenya in Ruaraka, starting totourists' aiready stretched seam bowling resources.

The 20-year-old Surrey allduring Sunday's one-day victory, contributing only two overs

the pressure of the job and

stepped down as the captain of

Pakistan after having to contend

with accusations of match-fix-

ing and threats from disgruntled

fans. He is being replaced by

Rashid Latif, the wicketkeeper

nationals, hopes to carry on

playing at the highest level.

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England's initial practice plans probably need to rest it," the coach, Mike Gatting, said. "Because there is only a day bedrought. Torrential showers tween matches, we wouldn't soaked the new Caribbean want to risk him in case he aggravates it further."

> It leaves the tourists desperately short of seam options. They are limited to the strike bowlers Paul Hutchison, of Yorkshire, and Leicestershire's James Ormond, following Chris Silverwood's promotion to the senior tour,

Warwickshire's Dougle Ben Hollioake has been ruled Brown, who established his international credentials with a series of impressive displays day, further weakening the during England's Sharjah triumph, arrives tomorrow to strengthen their resources but will only be available for the rounder suffered a grom injury final one-day match of the Kenya tour next Saturday.

ry, contributing only two overs before limping off for treatment.
"Ben's tweaked his groin muscle so he's a little hit wary about it at the moment. He will

he said. "I am a human being,

too, and there is a limit to

everything, I can't sustain the

17 Test matches, winning nine

and losing four, said that when

try with so much dedication and

distinction, you get such a treat-

If East German coaches are

found guilty in a forthcoming civil trial of harming athletes by giv-

ing them banned steroids, there

is certain to be pressure on the

International Olympic Commit-

tee to take medals away. How-

ever, the IOC is also unlikely to

scrap results from the Olympics

of that period, since it is believed

that doping was also common in

the West and other perfor-

mances could be questioned.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE CUP Second round:
Reddich v Blaton. Second-round replay:
Dorchester v Havent (745, Taled round: Fisher Ainlett. v Cembroige City; Margate v St.
Leorards Sturmont: Moor Green v Sutton Cotsfeld; Newport (60%) v Bashley.
UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Altricham v Leich: UniSite First Division Cup aecond round: Traitiond v Greine.

SECOND YOUNG: INTERIOR VERTURE.
SCHEWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Division: Mangotsfeld v Bridgmens.
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Division: Pazcetswer & Telscombe v Hallshamt.
Portfield v Paghant, Wick v Chichaste.
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE Bournemouth v
Cowes Sports.
JEWSON WESSEX SHIM AND ALLIANCE

Cower Sports
MITERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE
Industrial Rewinds League Cup secondround replay: Rocester v Witerinal.
PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: Shelfield Wechesday v Transcere (70), Second Division: Brackord City v Sheffield Und (70).

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP Third round: Chiwe v Marchester City (70): Westerd v Ful-

Wasim, who led Pakistan in

Wasim steps down as Pakistan's captain

pressure any more."

Wasim Akram has given in to gations have taken a toll on me.

Warne claimed his prized South African innings came two overs before lunch when he had Hansie Cronje caught at short leg off a tentative prod. similar to his dismissal in the first innings in Melhourne. However, in the second innings

there he shared a match saving 123-run stand with Kallis and, in the first innings here, Cronje had held the innings together with a watchful 88.

From 21 for 3 at lunch Warne struck at regular intervals. In a 23-hall spell after the hreak, he took 4 for 7 as South Africa slumped to 55 for 7. Kallis resisted stuhbornly for 155 minutes for his 45 runs and delayed the inevitable with Pat Symcox, who used the long handle to score 38 in a 41-run eighth-wicket stand. Reiffel took the last two wickets to finish with 3 for 13 in 12 overs.

Earlier, Australia tilted the halance of the match thanks to Ian Healy and the last batsman. Glenn McGrath, after Mark Taylor decided to hat on from a overnight 392 for 9. The pair frustrated the South Africans for a further 44 minutes, forcing them to take the third new ball, and put on 36 runs for the last wicket. McGrath followed up his 18 in the second innings in Melbourne with 14 before Donald had him caught behind. South Africa won toss

SOUTH AFRICA - First Innings 287 (W J Cronje 88, H H Grobs 54; S K Warne 5-75) AUSTRALIA - First Innings

Fell: 1-35 2-59 3-103 4-219 5-317 6-337 7-354 8-357 9-385. 5-03-7-5-03-8 Bowling: Donald 30.4-5-81-3, Poliock 33-8-71-3 (rib-5), Symcox 39-11-103-2, Adams 39-9-65-1, McMillan 19-5-55-1, Kaliis 8-1-30-0 [nb-1], Cronje 1-0-2-0

SOUTH AFRICA - Second Innings
G Kirsten Ibw b McGrath
A M Bacher o Ponting b Reitfel
J H Kates b Warne
*W J Cronje a Ponting b Warne
H HGbbs c Blewett b Warne
8 M McMillan b Warne
S M Pollock o Taylor b Warne
tO J Richardson c and b Warne
P L Symcox b Rettel
A A Donald & Richardson b Reiffel
P R Adams not out
Extrast (b-2 lb-1 nb-1)
Total

powning: Hedret 12-3-14-3, McGrath 5-2-8-1, Warne 21-9-34-6 (nb-1), Blewett 2-1-1-0, Bevan 3-0-18-0, Mwaugh 10-2-35-0 Umpires: 11 B Heir (Aus) and P Wiley (Eng).

First Test (Melbourne): Match drawn. Third Test (Adeleide): 30 Jan-3 Feb.

I would love to enjoy it as a play-

longer any motivation to lead

clude a tour of South Africa and

Pakistan.

month.



Australia's Shane Warne signals the capture of his 300th Test wicket against South Africa yesterday

Peroxide genius of the flipper

From beach burn to the world's best bowler? Derek Pringle pays tribute to Shane Warne as the Australian leg-spinner reaches the benchmark of true greatness in cricket - 300 Test wickets.

game such as Test cricket that nis Lillee. Malcolm Marshall embodiment of a player who has quicker. Warne's rate of wick-England's Mike Gatting at Old time, or three years, should he Trafford did in 1993.

Statistics now show that it take 300 wickets in Tests and was just one of Warne's Test victims: Gatting and all who saw one-day internationals, added: will know it as the moment a "Whatever cricket is left in me, wayward talent decided to announce his spectacular ability er, but certainly not as a captain of Pakistan. 1 think I have no for wrist spin.

And what ability. Genius is an inappropriate word to de-Pakistan's future fixtures inscrihe sportsmen, hut Warne comes as close as any to deserving it. He may not have the Zimbabwe, after a triangular tournament in Bangladesh this sheer hamboozling variety of

googlies of Mushtaq Ahmed, is an improbable-looking champother. Couple that with a drip- and ejected from the Australian ping accuracy and a flipper that is upon you faster than a rash, and you hegin to understand why few hatsmen have straight off a St Kilda beach - a been able to tame him for long.

Warne, now 28, joined the 300 club with 6 for 34 in the sec-It is rare in a long and complex Test. Although it is a feat Dena single ball can live on as the and Richard Hadlee have done taken 300 Test wickets, but that et-taking could take him past is exactly what Shane Warne's Kapil Dev's world record of 434 wickedly spinning üherball to wickets in another 30 Tests' stay free from injury.

> Of the spinners, only the West Indian, Lance Gibbs, with 309 wickets, now stands ahead of him, a position Warne could conceivably overhaul in the third and final Test against South Africa, should the surface offer anything like the spin seen over the last few days at the SCG.

With his peroxide dyed hair and comment-provoking rotund figure - what the Aussic keeper lan Healy calls a "hustling blond Abdul Qadir, or the fizzing ball of body language" - Warne

but he spins a leg-hreak like no ion. Hailing from Melbourne, cricket academy for bad behaviour, he began his Test career looking like he had crawled place, incidentally, where he and

his wife now live. Like his bowling, which hints ond innings of the second Test at one thing during its flight, but against South Africa - the mile- ends up doing quite another stone heing reached in his 63rd when it has pitched, looks disastrous beginning against In- hy radoning his flippers. dia in 1992, where he ended the series with 1 for 228, Warne got himself fit, trimmed his hair and, returning for another spell at the academy, met Terry Jenner.

A leg-spinner who had played nine times for Australia in the early 1970s, Jenner was trying to make a go of things as a coach. varn, the pair immediately hit it off and Jenner remains a close and trusted confidant. According to Steve Waugh,

by all accounts, a generous and open soul, who never forgets his more cherished in Australia than elsewhere.

But whatever the man behind the extraordinary bowling feats, it is for his abilities as a leg-spinner that we must judge him. Yet the figures, extraordinary as they are, do not do his talent justice. Nor do they tell of the dramas along the way, like the operation on his spinning finger 18 months ago, that threatened to cut short his caproved to be deceptive. After a reer, but which he now controls

It is now over four years since that amazing first ball against England forewarned the world that something special was about. Happily for Australia, the world has been virtually powerless to respond and their position as unofficial Test champions owes far more With their love for a beer and a to Warne than any 11-man team game should.

But then, as with Brian Lara, when he broke one batting world record after another, we Warne is just an average Aussie are in the presence of true guy, who lives on toasted cheese greatness and not some presandwiches, french fries and tender to the great figures in the spaghetti bolognese. He is also, game's history. Anyone who gets the chance should see Warne, because he's here, today, old mates, a quality perhaps now. We can forget the past.

SAILING

Conner hits the front in Toshiba

Dennis Conner's expertise and determination not to be second best was much in evidence yesterday when, barely 24 hours after making a disastrous start, he steered Toshiba into the lead on the fourth leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race.

Conner hlundered in Sydney Harbour on Sunday when he crossed the start line early. He had to re-start as the backmarker of the nine-boat fleet, but the four-times America's Cup winner has since clawed his way up the order. He hit the front by going from 5.5 miles behind the carly leader, EF Language, to grab a lead of 3.7 miles over second-placed Swedish Match.

The 55-year-old Conner, who made himself skipper after his American boat had failed to live up to her promise under Chris Dickson and Paul Standbridge, said: "We were back in the thick of the battle, otherwise I am sure my name would be mud with the crew. I have spent a lot of time ashore lately and I had forgotten how great sailing really is."

The fleet has essentially split into two groups on the 1,270 mile dash across the Tasman Sea to New Zealand, with Toshiba leading the southerly hunch of Swedish Match (Gunnar Krantz), Merit Cup (Grant Dalton) and Brunel Sunergy (Roy Heiner). To the north, Paul Cavard and

his crew on EF Language have slipped from first place to fourth and lead the other contingent of the British entry Silk Cut (Lawrie Smith), Chessie Racing (George Collins), Innovation Kvaerner (Knut Frostad) and EF Education (Christine Guillou). Like the hard-fought third

leg, this race is producing constant place changes and a close finish is expected on Friday. ITBISh IS EXPECTED ON 1*TIDAY.
WHITEREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE
(Fourth log, 1,270 mbles, Sydney to Auckland): 1 Toshba IUS) II Conner BO15 miles
to firish; 2 Swedish Match (Swe) G Krantz
37 miles behind; 3 Merit Cup (Monaco) G
Delton 49; 4 EF Language (Swe) P Cayard
55; 5 Sik Cut (GB) I. Smith 57; 6 Chessee
Racing (US) G Collins 79; 7 Innovation
Kwaemer (Nor) K Frestad 213; 8 Brunel Suner
gy (Neth) R Henrer 35.7; 9 EF Education
(Swe) C Guillou 73.

Stunrt Alexander

NUMBER

The maximum number of metres that can now he swum underwater in butterfly races. Fina, swimming's governing hody, has voted to limit a controversial technique used by Denis Pankratov, who covered more than half the 50m pool underwater when setting world records in 1996 and 1996. The rule will not come into effect until 6 March.

Pakistan lose he receives death and former vice-captain. Wasim, a veteran of 77 Test threats from fans. "It's very matches and 238 one-day intersad that after serving the coun-

These [match-fixing] alle- ment," he said.

SPORTING DIGEST

ATHLETICS

IAAF quashes British hopes

Britain's hopes of persuading the International Amateur Athleric Federation to strip world records or titles from former East German athletes who used drugs were dashed by the sport's governing body yesterday.

The LAAF said it was impossible under its six-year rule to scrap performances from the 1970s and 80s, even if athletes admitted to taking performance-enhancing drugs.

TODAY'S FIXTURES Football

7.45 unless stated, in view of the adverse weath-er conditions, please check with versus before travelling to any matches COCA-COLA CUP QUARTER-FINALS Reading v Middlesbrough West Ham v Amenti NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE HURD DIVISION /ISION 19h y Derlington (7.20) ... SCREEDINGS CHEEKS SHEELD NORTHERN SECTION SECOND ROUND Blackpool v York (7-30) Strainty v North Country Cartisle v Rochdise Grimstey Hull SOUTHERN SECTION SECOND ROUND enses v Peterboi Isali v Brigiston ...

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION Abrahe y Partick Thieste

Rugby Union TETLEY'S BITTER CUP Fourth round: Post-poned: Buth v London Scottish Cricket TOUR MATCH (Ruareka, first day of three): Kenya v England A.

TEMBENTS SCOTTISH CUP SECOND ROUND Arbrash v Queen of the South _ Clydebenk v Montrose DARTS: Embassy World Professional Champtocship (Lakeside Country Club, Printley Green,
SURBY).
SMOOKER: World Championship qualifiers
Chartered Cardio Biogeometric Cardio Country Club, Printley Green,
SMOOKER: World Championship qualifiers Arteriam v Montrosa Crydebenk v Montrosa RYMAN LEAGUE Premier Division: Heydridge v Gesvesend; Hitchin v Christo (by (745). First Division: Medicentend v Berthermited. Second Division: Medicentend v Berthermited. Second Division: Bertherd v Leignon; Berthing v Met-ropolizan Polick; Weedstane v Windsor & Bon. Third Christon: Austoy v Tring.

American football NFL: American Footbell Conference Divi-sonal play-off: Kansas City 10 Derver 14 Na-tional Footbell Conference Divisional play-offs: Green Bay 21 Tampa Bay 7.

Basketball NBA: Washington 109 Phoenix 99, Vancouver 106 Seattle 120; Sacremento 106 Charlotte 90, LA Lakers 107 Philadelphia 113.

Boxing
The British pair Deen Francis and Richie
Woodhall have been ordered by the
European Boxing Union to meet for the organisation's super-middlewelght title
The EBU also wants Belfast's Commonwealth champion Damen Corbett
to fight the Ukrainian, Alexander Curov,

An International Cricket Council fundraising tournament has been moved from Sharjah to Bangladesh. The limited-overs tournament, featuring all nine Test-playing nations, will now be played in Chaka from 26 October

to 4 November. Darts SKOL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (Purfleet. Essex) Final: P Taylor (Eng) bt D Presstey (Eng) 6-0. Third place play-off: R Hamng-ton (Eng) bt K Deller (Eng) 4-1 EMBASSY WORLD CHAMPIONISHIP (Frim-GROUND CHARP (LIMBLE PROJECT FOR THE PROJECT FOR THE PLANTSTORE (SCO) by R Baxter (Eng.) 3-2; K Painter (Eng.) by E Clarys (Bel) 3-1; R Burnett (Wal) by M James 3-1.

Football The BBC has secured the rights for live coverage of the first lag of Aston Viliats Usta Cup quarter-final against Atletico Madrid on 3 March in Spain. Channel 5 will show the return at Villa

Park a fortnicht later. Doncaster Rovers' tans have set up a consortium fund to raise £1.7m to takeover the Third Division side. The current owner, Dinard Trading, is known to be keen to sell if there is a suitable bid.

SURIAURE UND.

LOAN: Darren Pitcher (midfielder) Crystal Palace to Leyton Orient.

SUNDAY'S LATE RESULTS: British Langue: Internazionale 1 Juventus O. Spanish Langue: Asieco Madrid 2 Sarrander 1 French Leegue Cup second round: Marseãe 1 Châleaurous o

PA COP New arranged noture; weat is den: Port Valle v Arsenai (from 13 Jen). THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP Fourth Round draw; Portsmouth or Gillingham v Tranmere or Chelsee, Middlesbrough v Leeds or Crystal Palace, Hull or Bissol Rovers v Ipswich or Bradford City. Liverpool or Oueens Park Rongers v West Ham or Blackburn Notis. County or Arsenal v Brisck City or Swansee Southampton v Peterborough or Mycombe, Watchol or Fullman v Evention or Stoke, Crewe or Manchester City v Lution or Tetherham. Ties to be palaged before 14 February! AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Postponed: Engliston v Crystal Palace. WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE First Illvision: Postponed: Engliston v Creenwich Borough.

Golf ANDERSEN CONSULTING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OF GOLF (Scottsdale, Arts) Final: C Montgomere 103h bi O Love (LS) 2 up Third place play-off: E Els (SAI bi H Meshiai Llapan) 4 and 3

Ice hockey NHL: Edmontori 2 Los Angeles 3, Florida 3 Anaheim 3: Chicago 3 Derrori 1

SUNDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Express Cup: Bracknell 1 Caroft 2 Superteague: Man-chester 3 Nortingham 5, Newcastle 6 Bas-ingstoke 5 Sheffield 4 Ayr 5.

Olympics A total of 71 countries are bidding to

A total of 71 countries are bloomy to take part in next month's Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan. If all of them field competitors, after satisfy-ing qualification standards, it would make the Games the biggest in terms of the number of participating coun-tries. The current record is the 67 that well part in the last Winter Olympics. tres. The current southern the last Winter Olympics in Lifehammer, Norwey, in 1994. The Negano Games will also be the biggest in terms of the programme with

Rallying
PARIS-DAKAR RALLY Fifth slage (Er
Rachido to Ousraszate, Mort Care: 1 k Shnozuka Lapani Missakish 3hr 22mm 479 c.
2 B Saby (Fr) Missakish + mm 10sa; 3 J-1
Missakish 422; 5 H Masucka (Japani Missakish 1037; 6 J-1
Missakish 422; 5 H Masucka (Japani Missakish 1037; 6 J-1
Missakish 422; 5 H Masucka (Japani Missakish 1037; 6 J-1
P Allot (Fr) Nessan 46 Or. 8 B Hancakus (Bel)
Nissan 47:21; 9 J Loomans (Bel) Missakish 47:21; 9 J Loomans (Bel) Missakish 47:21; 9 J Loomans (Bel) Missakish 47:21; 9 J Formans (Bel) Missakish 47:21; 10 T de Lavergne + 1-21; 5 Niempolmidit + 21; 3 O Missakish 41; 22; 3 Missakish 41; 22; 3 Missakish 41; 22; 3 Missakish 41; 23; 3 Missakish 41; 23; 3 Missakish (Fr) F Missakish 43; 7; 8 O Gallardo (Sp) BMW + 4 51; 5 J Paturaki (Slovek) KTM + 2:30; 6 J Arcurons (Sp)

NTM +8 00, 7 E Onoli (lt) BMW +9.26, 8 A Cox ISAI NTM +12:30, 9 J Descon (GB) KTM +15.20, 10 A Peraz (FI KTM +16:9 Overadt: 1 Meons 6th 54mm 45sec, 2 Roms + Inm 35sec 3 Arcarons +7.50, 4 Magnaldi +8 00; 5 Gallardo +8.28, 6 Katmak +9 11: 7 Cox +9.54, 8 Onoli +10:50 9 R Sanct (Fr) KTM II 47, 10 5 Perenansel (FI) Vamaha 12:00.

Rugby League Warmgton Wolves have signed the ex-New Zealand Test forward Brandon Tuuta and his former Castleford Tigers colleague, winger Jason Roach. Featherstone Rovers, of the First Di-vision, have signed the 23-year-old Australian unity back Steve Collins on Rugby Union

Bath's Telley's Bitter Cup fourth-round game at home to London Scottish lonight has been called off for a

Skiing
WOMEN'S WORLD CUP SLALOM (Bormo, II): 1 Y Nowen (Swel Imin 2781sec (Irrst leg 275sec second leg 4506sec). 2 H Garg (Gert 1 2853 M361, 4492), 3 S Premair (Stovent 1 2855 M3361, 4492), 3 S Premair (Stovent 1 2856 M336, 4492), 4 E R Roten 1 5ent 1 2867 M325 4542, 5 E METH (Gert 1 2899 M349 4550), S Egger (Auf) 1 2869 M357 4542), 8 M Bergirann (Ger) 1 2901 (4424, 4480), 9 C Heigler (M2) 1 2902 4342, 4560), 10 T Bakke (Nor) 1 2915 M374 4563), 11 E Bayasch (In) 1 2916 M373 4543), 11 E Bayasch (Ger) 1 2916 M373 4543), 12 D Compagnoni (II) 1 2916 M373 4543), 11 E Rosent (M1) 1 2916 M373 4543), 16 A Doversing (Ger) 1 2936 M374 4568, 18 U Precard (Fr) 1 2937 M374 3 M377 4568, 18 U Precard (Fr) 1 2937 M374 3 V Noven (M1) Stolom standings (after 1 5 events): 1 Noven 480pts 2 Noven M375 456 Gerg (Fr) 7 Setonger (M1) Stoven) S Egger (M1) 123 Overall World Cup Standings (after 16 events): 1 Noven (Swell (Stoven) S Egger (M1) 123 Overall World Cup Standings (after 16 events): 1 S Secreger (Ger) (Ger), 754 3 V Noven (Swell (Ger), 754

The German Swimming Federation appealed vesterday against the with-drawal of the world championship

accreditation of its team chief, Winfried Leopold. The former East German coach has admitted his involvement in

Tennis

OATAR OPEN (DUBAI): First round: T Hen-man (GB) bi J Sanchez (Sp) 7-5 6-1; F San-toro [F) bi M Custalsson (Swe) 6-7 8-4 6-4; G Reoux [F) bi B Ulriach (©z Rep) 7-8 6-4; P Korda (Cz Republic) bit O Delatire [F) 8-1

6-1
AUSTRALIAN MEN'S HARTICOURT
CHAMPIONSHIPS (Memorial Drive, Ade-laide) Singles, first round: V Spades (US)
by N Klefer (Ger) 6-3 4-6 6-4 J Stottenburg
[ALE] bi J-A Marin (Sp) 6-4 6-1, T Johansson

(Swe) bt 8 Black (2im) 7-5 6-3; S Dosedel (Cz Rep) bt A Gaudenzi (ii) 4-6 8-2 8-1; B Steven (NZ) bt L Roux (rf) 8-3 8-3; J Sernernk (Neith) bt D Hrbaty (Soval) 6-3 6-7 6-3; I Blorkman (Swe) bt G Stathord (SA) 6-4 6-2; L Hewith (Aus) bt Dosedel (Aus) 6-4 6-4 Doubles, first round: T Woodbings and M Woodbinds (Aus) bt D Adams (SA) and A Kitnov (Mac) 7-5 6-4 AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S HARDCOURT CHAMPONSHIPS (Gold Coest) Finst round: A Sughsma (Japan) bt M Maleeva (Bul) 7-5 6-2; S Piticowski (Fr) bt J Kruger (SA) 6-2-3 6-2; S Piticowski (Fr) bt J Kruger (SA) 6-2-3 6-2; S Piticowski (Fr) bt J Kruger (SA) 6-2-3 6-2; C Morariu (US) bt N Fratt (Aus) 6-3 6-2; C Morariu (US) bt N Patt (Aus) 7-5 6-2 D Chiadhova (Cz Rep) bt M Endo (Japan) 7-6 2-5 7-6; C Barcky (Mallar) Aus) bt M Sanchizz (Lorenzo (Sa) 7-5 7-5 7-6; M Grzybowskia (Fo) bt J Lee (Bi) 5-7 6-7-7-5; R Mollar (Aus) bt K-A Guse (Aus) 6-1 6-1; M de Swardt (SA) bt L Courtoe (Bel) 5-7 6-4 7-5.

HOPMAN CUP MIXED TEAM TOURNA-MENT (Burswood Dome, Pert, Aue): Spein 2 Slowskin 1 (Spanich names first): A Sanchez Vicano bt K Habsuchon 6-2, 6-3; C Moys bost to K Kucser 7-6 6-4; Moys and Vicano bt Kucsera and Habsuchova 7-6 6-1. South Africa 2 Unituded States 1 (SA rames first): A Coetzer lost to C Rubin 6-4 6-3; W Ferrers bt J Stark 3-6 6-3 6-4; Ferrera and Coetzer bt Stark and Rubin 6-2 5-7 8-1 62 5-7 8-1
MEW ZEALAND WOMENS CLASSIC (Auckland): First round: S Testud (Fr) to Tu Me-Ln (US) 7-5 2-6 6-1; L Raymond (US) to 8 Fittner (Ger) 6-4 5-6 4-8 5-8 fains (fi) to A Dechsume-Balleret (Fr) 1-5 8-2 6-2; T Tanesugam (The) to LI Fang (China) 4-6 4-6 -2; M Bebel (Ger) to IM Maruska (Auf) 6-1 6-3, R Hudson (N2) to H Firsto (Lapan) 6-3 4-6 6-3; L Nemeckova (Cz Rep) to L Golarsa (fi) 6-1 2-6 6-1; Y Yuka (Japan) to K Boogert (Neth) 7-6 6-1

SNOW REPORT

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Calls to 0891 numbers cost 50p/mln; to 08975 numbers £1/mln at all times. Helpline 0870 0990 [33 345]

Rugby money men propose five-year block on relegation

The investors behind England's leading professional rugby union clubs are due to meet tomorrow to discuss a range of radical proposals with the potential for another bout of bloodletting.

Chris Hewett reports on the latest upheavals in a volatile sporting landscape.

The money men are running out the shambolic and money-leak- full international matches, not on 31 January, will almost cer- possibly could—the Americans of patience and revolution is in the air. Unless there is a drasric about-face by the governing bodies charged with running English and Continental club competitions, some of the most tournament and a move to influential financiers in the block Premiership promotion game will turn their backs on the and relegation for a five-year Heineken Cup, the European period. Conference and, it is feared in some quarters, press for the that the board of European creation of a self-perpetuating closed shop for the profession-

Representatives of the vast majority of England's higgest clubs go into emergency session tomorrow armed with a crisis agenda and a raft of uncom-

ing world of pro rugby to rights. Among the more extreme suggestions on the table will be a Heineken Cup hoycott, the creation of a new Anglo-French

The owners will demand Rugby Cup Ltd, the body set up to administer the two cross-border tournaments, tears up next season's fixture schedule, which effectively shuts down the Allied Dunhar Premiership for six long and expensive weeks. "The Premiership must take promising ideas aimed at setting precedence over everything bar

play second fiddle to Europe," said one club insider yesterday.

*There is a massive amount of frustration and many of us want out; we have delegates on ERC hut they are fighting a losing hattle against the Welsh, Scots and Irish. You can't run a husiness on the basis of constant interruption and, if we don't get satisfaction, the momentum towards a boycott will be unstoppable. How keen will television be to hroadcast a competition with no English

Bath, who have long identified the Heineken Cup as their ers, Brive, in this season's final

presence?"

tainly argue against a boycott but the West Countrymen will inevitably find themselves in a minority, possibly of one.

Some clubs, notably Richmond and Gloucester, are pushing for European business to be conducted in midweek, but others, including Northampton,

"It's a physical impossibilitimes in eight days," 1an Mc-Geechan, the director of rugby at Franklins Gardens, said. They don't do it in American football, which is the closest parallel in terms of intensity. top priority and face the hold- They'd squeeze another 10 games out of their guys if they

are the most professional people in the world when it comes to organising sport - hut they know they can't do it. Midweek is a non-starter in my book."

While the clubs are ready and willing to engage in a trial of strength with ERC, they run the risk of opening up a second front with the Rugby Football Union if they attempt to turn ty for players to turn out three the Premiership into a closed shop. Cliff Brittle, the RFU chairman who stood for election on a grass-roots platform, would have to fight any such move tooth and nail or lose all

> However, Sir John Hall, the hard-line multi-millionaire

minded colleagues, have long favoured a closed shop, knowing full well that it would lead to an irreparable split with the RFU and give them the freedom to pursue an independent future. Several owners have privately accused Brittle of

playing a waiting game in the

hope that the investors will

lose patience and pull out of the game altogether. Meanwhile, the relatively quiet waters of the Tetley's Bitter Cup produced a ripple of intriguing fifth-round ties yesterday. Four of the last eight matches are likely to be all-Premiership affairs, including a

heavyweight hout between

assuming that the title contenders win their postponed fourth-round games at Blackheath and Coventry respec-

At least one quarter-final place will be filled by a non-flite club - the winners of the postponed match between West Hartlepool and Wakefield will play either Rugby or Reading in round five - while Northampton have home advantage over Gloucester in the one guaranteed top-flight collision.

FOOTBALL

Shearer may be ready for early return to action

to both Newcastle and England supporters after resuming training yesterday. The striker has not ham on 13 January. played this season after injuring

Although both Shearer and his manager, Kenny Dalglish, have refused to put a date on his likely return to action, he or early February, at least a month ahead of schedule.

Andy Hinchcliffe wants a signing-off fee from Everton before he joins Tottenham. The defender has asked his club to settle the loyalty payment in his contract, as he believes that, as he has not asked to leave, he should be compensated. If Hinchcliffe had not signed a new contract, he would have heen a free agent this summer and therefore, he argues, leaving now for a fee would bring Everton a big profit.

Another unsettled Goodison make the move to Hillsborough after Sheffield Wednesday of- Alhion's leading scorer, may be fered £5m plus Graham Hyde, as well as doubling Speed's wages, although the midfielder may yet contacting the Austrian Football opt for a move to Newcastle.

Despite the controversy surrounding his decision to end Saturday's match just before

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Alan Shearer has given a boost Wimhledon scored, the referee Steve Dunn will take charge of their FA Cup replay with Wrex-

Stevenage Borough plan to his right ankle in early August. double the capacity of their ground in order to keep home advantage for their FA Cup fourth-round match with Newcastle. The GM Vauxhall Concould be back by late January ference club intend to install an extra 6,000 seats for the match, which is scheduled to be televised live by Sky Sports on Sunday 25 January.

After failing to return on time after his Christmas hreak in Brazil, Emerson may find himself on a permanent holiday from Middlesbrough. Bryan Robson has fined the player and banned him from training. Leeds United have agreed to

sell Pierre Laurent back to Bastia for £500,000 - double the fee they paid for him. Meanwhile, their former striker Tomas Brolin has joined Crystal Palace player is Gary Speed, who may for a two-week training spell.

Andy Hunt, West Bromwich going to the World Cup finals in France this summer, after Association saying he is eligible to play for them because he has an Austrian grandmother.



Wenger believes in power

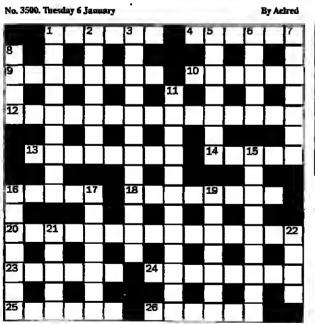
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THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



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- Staple and nail will secure 2 middle of sheet (5) Happy about short bull's 3 performance which yields fruit (8) 5
- cheating with nets let out Possibly weak, dealing with illness, having little resistance within (6)
- Fighter came down without tail, causing a headache (8) Greek takes comfort from 15 old film (6) Smile about lord seen returning to madhouse (6) DOWN
- Hate having to take a short time in a ship to Spain (9) Large patch or the equivalent in school (7) Beef about crops in this? Producing light topic re-
- Colour of tailless fish fea-tured in "The King & Time for one to abandon
 - unpleasant powerful group (7) Used Penny to be a pest? Steam off given this? (6,6)
 - Be unabhreviated? (9) Striking remains found in container? Good (7) Soldier comes up wearing clothing for ramble (7) Hold attention in
 - umpteenth raily (7)
 Inspire one doctor with extremes of underperformance (5) Sweden was first in thing like bobsleigh (4)

is no use looking back. You cannot change things. We have not greh's former Barcelona strikbeen scoring goals recently but I find it hard to believe that we another from Turkey that he

of Bergkamp and Wright Arsène Wenger insists he has no our 20 goals in the early part of "There is no chance for either

fear of embarrassment tonight at the hands of John Hartson, the in-form striker Wenger allowed to leave Arsenal for West Ham last Fehruary.

Wenger has placed his faith with his strike pairing of Dennis Bergkamp and Ian Wright, despite their recent barren run.

Arsenal are still cashing in on Hartson's success - in a deal initially struck with the Hammers at £3.3m but bringing them regular additional payments tied to the Welshman's performance. Hartson's five goals belped save West Ham from relegation last season and put the first bonus in the Arsenal bank. The next is due when he reaches the 25-goal mark and he needs just two more for that quarter-century gning into tonight's Coca-Cola Cup quarter-final tie at Upton Park.

Eventually the price could rise as high as £5m hut even that would be scant consolation to Arsenal if their renewed interest in English football's third most important prize dies at the feet of Hartson.

Wenger admitted: "I knew he would do well when I sold him but it doesn't mean 1 regret the decision. We could have kept him but West Ham offered him a chance and he wanted to go hecause most of the time he was just on the bench here hehind Bergkamp and Wright.

"In football I have learned it will not score them again. Berg-

the season. They were a great partnership then and they will be again. And if people criticise me for letting Hartson go, whatever happens [tonight], I think

it would be stupid." Wenger, in fact, has already faced a similar situation. West Ham came to Highbury in the Premiership in September, were soundly beaten 4-0 and Hartson hardly had a kick. Since then, however, Arsenal have faltered apart from the temporary lift of November's win against Manchester United.

They have sunk to sixth in the League, and both Bergkamp and Wright have scored one goal apiece in their last nine appearances. The drought - just five Arsenal goals in seven games - reached a head with Saturday's scoreless home draw with the First Division strugglers Port Vale in the FA Cup.

Despite suggestinns of disharmony in the dressing-room, Wenger insisted: "Our attitude and spirit is still all right. And 1 believe we can still do well in both the cups and the League this season.'

Wright returns from a twomatch ban, with Wenger needing to keep the goal-scoring powers of his 34-year-old record-breaker after the teenager Nicolas Anelka failed to prove an adequate replacement. Wenger yesterday dismissed

a report from Croatia that he is planning a £6m hid for Zaer, Rohert Prosinecki, and wants Fenerbahce's Nigerian kamp and Wright scored 19 nf defender Uche Okechukwu.

of them to join Arsenal," he said while admitting: "I probably expected too much from Anelka. He is only 18 and he knows there is high expectation of him, but maybe it is still a little

too soon for him. "In many ways he is in a similar position to the one Hartson was in here, getting only one or two games at a time to make an impression.

"At a club like Arsenal you cannot keep players in the side for very long if they are not producing, but although we are looking at the transfer market every day for new players hut there is always great competition for the right ones even when they do become available."

West Ham, who have won 12 of their 13 games at Upton Park this season, are sure to present another stern test of Arsenal's resolve. Emmanuel Petit, the French midfielder, has given Wenger a boost by recovering from a kick on a calf muscle sustained against Port Vale but Lee Dixon and David Platt are still out with groin injuries.

For West Ham, Steve Potts may have to fill in again for West Ham in midfield, as Steve Lomas is suspended, while John Moncur and Ian Bishop are injured. Tim Breacker is also ruled nut with ankle and knee problems, but Andy Impey is ready to return after missing Saturday's FA Cup match against Emley match through injury.

Meanwhile, Iain Dowie is set to stay at the club at least for the time being after the striker rejected loan moves to Queen's Park Rangers and Fulham.



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